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Comment pg 16

Store tells men: Don't neglect your knickers



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Style pg 24



A holiday makeover for the Mary Jane

Boy hit with mother's car recovering

COLLISION A three-year-old boy who was accidentally run down by his mother is recovering, police say.

The child was hit by his mother in Bang Falls, Queens County, Monday as she backed out of the driveway.

The boy was taken to hospital with head injuries, but RCMP Staff Sgt. Bruno Deveau says the boy was set to leave the intensive care unit yesterday and is on the road to recovery. **METRO HALIFAX**

News on the Move

What's this barcode for?

Learn how to scan the barcode with the instructions at the top of pg 3

World pg 12

South Korea warns North, deploys ships

Celebrity pg 34

Dion loses child



On the web

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MATT BRUNTON/METRO HALIFAX

Allan Tanner, a veteran of the Second World War with the Merchant Marines, salutes yesterday during the Remembrance Day ceremony at the Grand Parade. More coverage, pages 3, 8.

'Supreme sacrifice'

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Halifax

Thousands of Nova Scotians gathered across HRM yesterday to pay respects to Canada's war dead.

At the Parade Square in downtown Halifax, where soldiers have marched for more than 250 years, dozens of Canadian Forces personnel past and present were joined by hundreds of Haligonians. At 11 a.m., canons rumbled through the still air and a Sea King helicopter flew past as heads bowed in a moment of silence.

Lt.-Gov. Mayann Francis laid the first wreath at the newly refurbished cenotaph. She was followed by Silver Cross Mother Angela Reid, whose son Christopher died in Afghanistan in 2006.

After the ceremony, Premier Darrell Dexter said he was glad to see such a big turnout.

"More and more, people are understanding that the act of remembrance is an important one, that people made huge sacrifices to secure the peace and freedom that we enjoy today," he said.

Dexter served in the navy, but his thoughts were with his late father, who fought in the Second World War.

"He signed up during the war, left his wife and two kids behind in Milton, and was overseas for four years — a big piece of his life," he said. "He was just one of many who did that, and they came from all the small towns, from Milton and Bridgetown and Yarmouth and Glace Bay, and they came to do their duty and serve their country."

Thomas Waters, Royal Canadian Legion district commander for Nova Scotia/Nunavut Command, organized yesterday's event.

"I think we're getting more people out because of what's happening in the world today, and that's the sad part. The good part is people are remembering those who gave the supreme sacrifice," he said.

"(Veterans) feel especially sorry for the young ones that have passed away (in Afghanistan because they've seen it happen and here it's happening over again."

More delays on horizon for Dartmouth, Herring Cove sewage plants

INFRASTRUCTURE There are more delays for Halifax's troubled sewage treatment system.

The CBC reported that the Halifax Regional Municipality has applied for a six-month extension of commissioning permits for the Dartmouth and Herring Cove treatment plants.

The application marks the second time the city has asked for more time for the Dartmouth plant to meet effluent discharge targets before assuming ownership from the builder.

The Dartmouth plant received a one-year extension from the Environment Department at the start of the year but that expires soon.

"There are some underlying problems related to that but the main issue is there is still some construction going on at the plant," James Campbell of Harbour Solutions told the CBC

The Dartmouth plant opened in July 2008 but the Herring Cove facility is still under construction.

The Halifax treatment plant hasn't been operating since a power outage last January caused raw sewage to flood the facility and destroy equipment.

It isn't expected to be operational until the spring. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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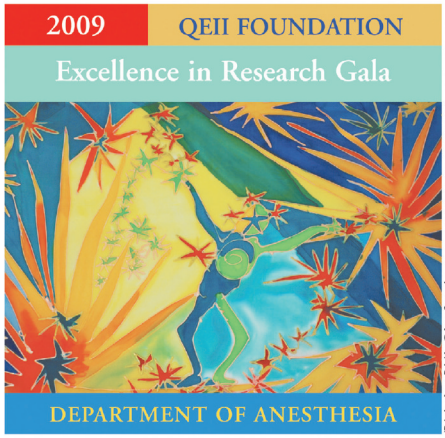
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Photos provided by Michelle Doucette

(from left) Special guest Cathy Jones, comedy sensation from This Hour Has 22 Minutes, entertains guests. Guests enjoy the reception and silent auction portion of the evening. Master of Ceremonies Seamus O'Regan, co-host of Canada AM, welcomes guests to the Gala.

An enthusiastic crowd of over 900 were taken on a journey of research - one built on hope and fuelled by passion - at the 2009 QEII Excellence in Research Gala held on Friday, November 6th at the Cunard Centre. The Department of Anesthesia at the QEII Health Sciences Centre was the focus of the Gala, with record-setting proceeds of $168,900 supporting pain research - the people that make recoveries happen and those whose struggles and triumphs drive their work.

This annual Gala recognizes outstanding achievements in health research and the contributions and support received from the corporate community. The QEII Foundation sincerely thanks everyone who supported this Gala.

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Local



N.S. journalist wins Giller Prize

Nova Scotian journalist Linden MacIntyre, left, won the 2009 Scotiabank Giller Prize for his novel The Bishop's Man Tuesday. The Random House Canada book took the $50,000 prize for MacIntyre's story of sexual abuse perpetrated by Catholic priests in Cape Breton. Raised in Port Hastings, MacIntyre covered Parliament for a Halifax newspaper in the 1960s before moving to broadcasting at the CBC. Based in Toronto, the 66-year-old now works for the CBC program The Journal. METRO HALIFAX

AWARDS METRO INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR 2009 Festival of Media Awards

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News in brief

CORBETT Deputy Premier Frank Corbett has admitted he made a mistake in expensing meals at several pricey restaurants. He has rung up the highest meal bills on file for the new NDP government, according to ministerial expense records. Corbett said he will reimburse the province for the meal.

CHILD PORN An Indian Brook man is facing child pornography charges after RCMP searched a residence Nov. 3 and seized three computers and a variety of external media. Joseph Alexander Peter-Paul, 26, was arrested.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Blogs SpinDoctor on why Ottawa will have to get to the bottom of H1N1 vaccine campaign glitches.



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Students honour their own

University members gather to remember fallen soldiers

SAGAN POPE
for Metro Halifax

Amongst the hundreds of people who gathered in Halifax to remember fallen soldiers was a group of students commemorating people, just like themselves, who went off to war.

"We at the student union gathered today to commemorate those students that died in battle," said Shannon Zimmerman, president of the Dalhousie Student Union. Zimmerman was one of several university students attending the Remembrance Day ceremony in Grand Parade Square.

Money was raised through poppy flower sales in support of the Royal Canadian Legion. Wreaths were purchased in order to honour the fallen of the past and present and were presented as a part of the ceremony.

"I'm from the engineering campus, which used to be the Technical University of Nova Scotia," said Stephanie Hagmann, president of the Engineering Society at Dalhousie University. "So we are here to represent the students that used to attend the university before it became Dalhousie."

Although Remembrance Day was once a day to commemorate those who died in the First and Second World Wars, as well as the Korean War, the ceremony has expanded to recognize those who have recently died in Afghanistan.

"It's to respect the Dalhousie students that did that as well as the veterans and those that are still doing it," said Zimmerman.



RYAN TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX

Cpl. Dan Jomaa leaves his post yesterday as a cenotaph sentry at the conclusion of the Remembrance Day ceremony at the Grand Parade.

Man charged with murder after police find woman's body

CRIME A Beaver Bank man has been charged with second-degree murder after RCMP found a woman dead in a home.

Police responded to a 911 call at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday and found a deceased woman in her 30s inside the residence at 533 Beaver Bank Rd. About 15 minutes later, a man, who police believe lives in the residence, was arrested.

At the time, police declared the death suspicious and said they suspected foul play.

Police have not released the name of the victim. The RCMP/HRP Integrated Major Crime Section, as well as the RCMP Forensic Identification Section, continue to investigate the case.

Kevin Downing, 46, is charged with second-degree murder.

Downing has been remanded into custody and is scheduled to appear in Dartmouth provincial court today.

METRO HALIFAX



RYAN TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX

Police tape remains outside a house at Beaver Bank Road yesterday after police responded to a 911 call Tuesday and found a deceased woman inside.

Gun amnesty program a hit

EXCHANGE A new program designed to get guns off the streets of Halifax is being heralded as a major success by police.

Pixels for Pistols, a gun amnesty program launched last week in HRM, allows citizens to turn in a functional firearm in exchange for a new digital camera and a gift card from Henry's School of Imaging.

In the first week, police have collected 101 firearms and more than 2,000 rounds of ammo.

That's already double the entire weapons haul the last time police ran the month-long program in 2006. Another 70 people have made appointments for this week.

"We are very pleased with the overwhelming response," said Supt. Don Spicer, HRM's public safety officer. "Every gun that is retrieved during this program is one less gun that could end up in the wrong hands."

Spicer said many of the guns used in street crime are stolen from legitimate gun users — and if people aren't using their firearms for hunting or recreation, they might as well turn them over.

In 2006, the program did not include giving out cameras. This year the cameras are donated by Henry's.

The program runs until the end of the month. Non-functional firearms and ammunition are good for a gift card alone.

To turn in your gun or ammunition, call 490-6977 or email gunamnesty@halifax.ca. Weapons cannot be brought to a police facility.

MONIQUE MUISE/METRO HALIFAX
WITH FILES FROM PAUL MCLEOD

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Poll finds Nova Scotians happy with highways

The 2008 Highway Customer Satisfaction survey, released this week, says 61 per cent of Nova Scotians are satisfied with the roads. While 76 per cent said they feel safe driving the highways, the top three concerns were drivers using cellphones, speeding and distracted drivers. METRO HALIFAX

Court OKs $13M abuse suit

Settlement brokered by bishop now facing child porn charges

PAUL MCLEOD
paul.mcleod@metronews.ca

Under starkly different circumstances than when it was unveiled, the $13-million class action lawsuit Bishop Raymond Lahey negotiated with victims of sexual abuse was approved this week.

In August Bishop Lahey sat side-by-side with Ronald Martin to announce the settlement. Martin was himself a victim of sexual abuse at the hands of a priest. He led a charge for compensation after his brother committed suicide, leaving a note that revealed his history of being abused as a youth.

"I want to express to you in a personal way my most sincere regrets for the abuse that you and other members of your family have suffered," Lahey said at the time.

Weeks later Lahey would become a nationally known figure when he was charged with entering the country with child pornography on his laptop.

The agreement was designed for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Antigonish to pay up to $13 million to victims while avoiding bankruptcy. It was contingent on approval from the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia.

On Tuesday the court ruled the agreement met the necessary criteria and "constituted a fair and reasonable settlement that was in the best interests of the class as a whole."



ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rev. Raymond Lahey makes his way into the courthouse in Ottawa in October. Earlier this month a judge put off the case of the Roman Catholic bishop facing child-pornography charges. A lawyer for Lahey has asked for more disclosure of evidence on the charges of possessing and importing child pornography.

Vaccinations not likely to be finished before flu season ends: Officials

Flu Outbreak

It could be well after the flu season has passed before everyone in Nova Scotia will be able to receive a vaccination against the swine flu, Nova Scotia's health minister said Tuesday.

Maureen MacDonald said based on a steady supply of 50,000 doses a week, it could be February before all of the province's 900,000 residents can get the shot.

"We still have a ways to go," she told reporters. "This program will continue all of this month and well into December and possibly beyond."

MacDonald said she hoped to resume deliveries of 50,000 doses of adjuvanted vaccine in the coming weeks, but had no guarantee from the federal government or the manufacturer of when that might happen.

The time to roll out the vaccine far exceeds the six to nine weeks the provincial government initially expected it would take to complete the immunization program.

Officials in Nova Scotia have administered about 140,000 doses so far in the province, representing only about 15 per cent of the population.

Robert Strang, the province's chief public health officer, said the slowdown in the production of the vaccine means they've received only 207,400 doses — a fraction of what they expected.

"Several weeks ago, we were expecting by this time to have received between 350,000 to 450,000 doses," Strang said. "So we certainly have quite a gap."

Strang conceded that it could be well after the H1N1 flu pandemic has eased that all people are able to get their shot, depending on the supply of the vaccine.

But he said it's possible there will be a third wave of the flu. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Priority groups

- On Tuesday, the province expanded the list of priority groups that can get the vaccine to include people under 65 with chronic conditions, those caring for infants under six months and people who work in residential care facilities.
- Also, people living with residents who cannot get the vaccine for health reasons, like allergies, are also now eligible.
- Roughly 470,000 people in the province have underlying medical conditions, such as asthma or diabetes.

Lax safety oversight key factor in '07 private jet crash: Report

Ineffective oversight of safety regulations was a key factor behind a 2007 jet crash in Nova Scotia that left 10 people injured, including Tim Hortons co-founder Ron Joyce, the Transportation Safety Board concluded in a final report Tuesday.

The independent agency found private aircraft operators regulated by the Canadian Business Aviation Association were not held to the same standard as commercial airlines regulated by Transport Canada.

The federal department transferred regulatory responsibility for some aviation operators to the private association in 2003, then failed to exercise effective oversight, the board said.

Joyce suffered two fractured vertebrae when his new jet crashed at his resort. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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November 25, 2009 from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm
St. Andrew's Centre - Seniors Room
6955 Bayers Road, Halifax

November 26, 2009 from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm
Halifax Forum - Multi Purpose Centre
6210 Young Street, Halifax

McCain to hit town for speaking engagement
Former presidential candidate John McCain and U.S. Defence Secretary Robert Gates will visit Halifax later this month. They are among the speakers at the inaugural Halifax International Security Forum, held at the Westin hotel Nov. 20-22. METRO HALIFAX

Council eyes gas-guzzler cabs

Reduction of GHGs a goal as officials vote to scrap zoning system

MONIQUE MUISE
monique.muise@metronews.ca



RYAN TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX

Taxi cabs wait outside the Harbourfront Marriott yesterday. HRM Council has moved one step closer to getting rid of taxi zones after it approved in principle amendments to the municipal taxi bylaw on Tuesday.

Gas-guzzling cabs that drive miles without a passenger may soon be a thing of the past in HRM.

On Tuesday night, Halifax Regional Council approved in principal amendments to the current taxi bylaw which aim to reduce the environmental impact of the city's cabs.

They voted to scrap the current "zone" system where cars can only pick up passengers in designated areas. This caused cabbies to drive back and forth between zones without a passenger — a practice known as deadheading.

"Our objective as a municipality is to reduce our carbon footprint and reduce greenhouse gases," said Coun. Jim Smith. "We have a great opportunity here."

The city is currently divided in three zones, and drivers are generally not permitted to pick up or drop off a fare in a zone unless they are licensed there. Those who support opening the whole city to every cab say the change will also make it easier to hail a taxi downtown when the bars close and revellers spill out onto the streets.

But not everyone in council chambers supported eliminating the zones.

"The reason they are in place is so people out in Sackville and Cole Harbour get service," said Coun. Steve Adams, chairman of the HRM's taxi commission. "If there's a Moose-heads game in Halifax, all the cabs (would be) there."

Councillors also agreed to allow smaller, more fuel-efficient taxis to operate throughout HRM, opening the door for hybrid vehicles that pump fewer carbon emissions into the atmosphere.

City moves towards 5-year transit plan

TRANSIT City council took the first of what will likely be many baby steps towards approving a new five-year transit plan on Tuesday.

The municipality's 23 councillors agreed to receive the plan, and approved several service standards included in the 350-page document, but wouldn't budge any further — saying they need more information and want some big changes made before they give it a final stamp of approval.

"If you're asking me to approve this in principal ... then there are things in this plan I can agree with but there are a whole lot of things I can't agree with," said Coun. Sue Uteck.

The fist-waving and head-shaking began almost as soon as the report was brought before council in October — with many councillors strongly opposed to proposed fee hikes for either motorists or transit users. Others complained about a lack of focus on rural areas, or the fact that the new fleet of vehicles would not be hybrids.

MONIQUE MUISE/
METRO HALIFAX

New home planned for museum

DARTMOUTH The Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society will have a new home in an old building, Halifax Regional Council decided Tuesday.

Council voted to give the society exclusive rights to the former Dartmouth city hall building next to the ferry terminal as soon as it becomes available.

Dartmouth's 45,000-artifact collection is currently sitting in a warehouse in Burnside, and Coun. Gloria McCluskey (Dartmouth Centre) said many of the pieces have already begun to degrade.

MONIQUE MUISE/
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Tory confirmed as new Inverness MLA

A recount has confirmed Conservative candidate Allan MacMaster as the new MLA for Nova Scotia's Inverness riding. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Debating Afghan war's merits, perils

Columnists' views clash during Halifax forum

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Halifax

A national debate on whether the war in Afghanistan is a "noble fight" or a "lost cause" kicked off in Halifax Tuesday night.

On the eve of Remembrance Day, Maclean's magazine columnists Andrew Coyne and Paul Wells led a panel discussion from Neptune Theatre broadcast live on CPAC on Canada's planned withdrawal from combat in 2011.

Wells said it was a "noble fight," but spoke of a soldier he had met in Petawawa, Ont., who was excited to go away and "make a difference."

"I am increasingly less certain that they are continuing to make a stable and long-lasting difference," Wells said.

Kandahar residents feel unsafe and have little confidence in their government, he said, while the last four months have seen record highs for Canadian casualties.

> **"I am increasingly less certain that they are continuing to make a stable and long-lasting difference (in Afghanistan)."**
> Paul Wells, Maclean's magazine

"These casualty rates could be sustainable if there was some kind of light at the end of the tunnel, but what we keep seeing is more tunnel," he said.

Coyne argued Canada had not had the right strategy and resources, but now that they were coming into place, the troops must stay the course.

"We have to ask ourselves: Are the losses unacceptable in view of the importance of the cause and the likelihood of victory?" he said.

"Afghanistan has to be seen in the context of the situation in Pakistan, where we have an insurgency that would take enormous heart from a defeat from NATO in Afghanistan, and the broader fight against jihad international, where the best slogan for recruiting fighters is, 'We're winning.'"

Canada has lost 133 soldiers in the Afghan war. It is costing Canadians an estimated $18 billion.

Coyne and Wells were joined by Chris Alexander, Canada's first resident ambassador to Afghanistan; Scott Taylor, a former soldier and current editor of Esprit du Corps; and military analyst Mercedes Stephenson.

Public Gardens **Staying open for business**



RYAN TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX

People walk over a foot bridge at the Public Gardens yesterday. The Public Gardens normally closes after Remembrance Day, but it will stay open until the end of the month unless there are significant amounts of ice and snow.

News in brief

VANDALISM An Elmsdale teenager was injured by a police dog Tuesday morning after "resisting" capture following a vandalism spree, police say. Police received a complaint about three young men running through the neighbourhood committing vandalism and an RCMP dog handler in the area responded. The cops cornered three suspects, two males aged 17 and one male aged 16, who then fled and were tracked down by the dog. One received superficial wounds from the animal before police arrested all three.

LIFEGUARDS The Canadian Red Cross is launching its new lifeguard program in Halifax this weekend. About 45 staff and volunteers will spend tomorrow, Saturday and Sunday at the Captain William Spry Centre completing training to become the first certified under the Canadian Red Cross Lifeguard program.

METRO HALIFAX

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Seminar date, time, and venue are subject to change. If changes are necessary, registered participants will be notified.

Outgoing ADQ boss slams Tories

The outgoing leader of the Action democratique du Quebec blames the federal Tories for helping to destroy his party. In a scathing open letter, Gilles Taillon says his decision to sever ties with the federal Conservatives prompted a harsh response. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada



Free school for kids of deceased

McMaster University has joined several other institutions offering four years of free tuition to the children of Canadian soldiers killed in military action. The university announced yesterday it will also provide residence accommodation and a meal plan for the first year of study, as part of the Project Hero program. The program was launched earlier this year to provide support to the sons and daughters of Canadian military members killed while serving in an active mission. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Prince Charles honours Canada's war dead

British royal joins PM, Governor General in Remembrance Day ceremonies in capital

Prince Charles joined Prime Minister Stephen Harper and thousands of others to pay tribute to the country's war dead at a packed national Remembrance Day ceremony yesterday.

The prince, colonel-in-chief of three Canadian regiments, donned a full military uniform with the insignia of lieutenant-general as he laid a wreath at the foot of the towering National War Memorial.

Gov. Gen. Michaëlle Jean, titular commander-in-chief of the Canadian Forces, also wore a dress uniform in a rare display as she walked beside the prince and laid a wreath on behalf of the Queen. Her epaulets and cuffs carried the lion insignia of her office.

Along with Gen. Walter Natynczyk, their uniforms gave an unusual martial appearance to the front ranks of the ceremony.

Della Marie Morley of East Saint Paul, Man., this year's Silver Cross mother, was on hand representing all grieving families. Her son, Cpl. Keith Morley, was killed in Afghanistan on Sept. 18, 2006.

The ritual began in bright sunshine and cool temperatures with a choir singing "O Canada" and a bugler playing the haunting notes of "The Last Post."

The crash of an artillery piece and the tolling of the Peace Tower clock sounding the hour of 11 a.m. heralded the two-minute silence.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Damaged

- Thousands of people lined streets in Fredericton yesterday for a Remembrance Day ceremony at the provincial cenotaph which had been damaged by vandals just days earlier. The remains of the cross were hauled away Tuesday after it had been toppled and broken over the weekend.



GARY KYLANDER/THE CANADIAN PRESS

A picture of Karine Blais, one of the Canadian women soldiers killed in Afghanistan, was left at the Cenotaph in Kelowna, B.C.'s City Park at the conclusion of a Remembrance Day ceremony.

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ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gov. Gen. Michaëlle Jean and Prince Charles speak with veterans following a Remembrance Day ceremony in Ottawa yesterday.



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Harper to kick off overseas tours today

POLITICS Avoid a fall election? Check. Distribute billions in stimulus spending across Canada? Check. Win a parliamentary vote aimed at abolishing the long-gun registry? Check. Dispatch four federal by-elections? Check. Burnish international credentials, especially with emerging powers?

Prime Minister Stephen Harper embarks today on the first of three consecutive trips abroad that will keep him out of the House of Commons virtually until the fall session ends in mid-December.

Trips to Singapore, India, Trinidad and Tobago, China and South Korea mark the culmination of an autumn political season that has seen Conservative fortunes taking flight.

Barring an unforeseen international misstep by Harper, the heavy travel itinerary may help glide his minority government through the end of 2009. His travels should also help smooth the way for next summer's international summitry in central Ontario.

"It's an opportunity to underscore the importance of continued global co-operation during these times," Harper's spokesman, Dimitri Soudas, said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

SEAL BAN Sales of seal pelts from Nunavut have plummeted in the past year and a half, in the wake of the European Union's move this year to ban the trade of seal products, CBC News Online reports. The impact of worldwide publicity surrounding the ban, which EU parliamentarians passed in May, is already being felt in Nunavut, where Inuit sealers have made a living harvesting seals for the fur market. Fur Harvesters Auction Inc. in North Bay, Ont., would usually sell most of the 10,000 to 12,000 seal pelts it receives from Nunavut each year, at an average price ranging from $50 to $70, said Ed Ferguson, a fur technician with the auction house.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Ski jumping women in appeal court

2010 OLYMPICS The women ski jumpers suing VANOC for inclusion in the 2010 Olympics will appear in the B.C. Court of Appeal today and tomorrow.

"We will ask the court to consider whether the (International Olympic Committee) can force VANOC to discriminate when it's carrying out a government activity," said Ross Clark, the jumpers' lawyer, in a statement yesterday.

"We don't agree with the trial judge's findings that the (IOC) is the final authority."

The IOC ruled in 2006 to keep women's ski jumping off the Olympic program for technical reasons and said it didn't meet the criteria established for inclusion in the Games. VANOC officials have publicly stated their support for the jumpers' cause, but Deedee Corradini, president of Women's Ski Jumping USA, said so far, organizers have failed to step up to the plate. "Support would be VANOC taking the jumpers' position to the IOC itself," she said.

KIMBERLY SHEARON/
FOR METRO CANADA

Kaylee's father pleads guilty over assault, robbery
Baby Kaylee's father Jason Wallace, 34, has pleaded guilty to reduced charges stemming from an assault and robbery. Kaylee, who suffers from a rare brain abnormality, was thrust into the media spotlight after surprising doctors in Toronto with her brave fight for health. THE CANADIAN PRESS

In BlackBerry country, jobs go begging as jobless figures soar

There's a startling truth about jobs in BlackBerry land.

When most people think BlackBerry, they think of the booming high-tech company Research In Motion Ltd. making billions — an outfit with thousands of employees, easily bankrolling a millionaires' row in its hometown of Waterloo in southwestern Ontario.

And indeed, in Canada's so-called Technology Triangle — the cities of Kitchener, Waterloo and Cambridge — as many as 2,000 high-paying, high-tech jobs are going begging.

But in a startling juxtaposition, the region is also registering an unemployment rate of 9.2 per cent, higher than the national average of 8.6 per cent.

And there are homeless living on the streets.

The number of unemployed has nearly doubled compared to this time last year, with 26,000 people out of jobs now compared to 14,500 in 2008.

But while the jobless numbers rise, there are 1,500 to 2,000 jobs open every day at the approximately 550 high-tech companies that inhabit the Technology Triangle.

But many of those available, well-paying, high-tech jobs are highly specialized or require significant experience.

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Alberta's Wildrose Alliance takes energy issues to task

Alberta's Wildrose Alliance party says it's launching a task force to develop an energy platform for the next provincial election. It says Premier Ed Stelmach and the Progressive Conservative Party of Alberta have lost their way when it comes to energy issues. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Queue jumping? It's our survival instinct, prof says

Call it flu frenzy.

More and more reports are surfacing of people jumping the queue to get the vaccine against the H1N1 influenza virus.

Hockey players, hospital board members and students and staff at private colleges have had their shot.

And one expert says it just might be people's survival instinct kicking in.

Flu **Outbreak**

The will to survive might trump all, said Scott Schieman, a University of Toronto sociology professor.

"Part of it probably has to do with just levels of anxiety reaching a certain point where some people sort of feel survival takes priority," Schieman said.

"Social norms that typically would provide order and a sense of fairness and help people keep a sense of calm get tossed aside."

In a crisis, he said, some people are "not going to be able to control themselves."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Olympics **The Flame sparks young delight**



JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Young children cheer yesterday as they see the Olympic Flame in Sheshatshui, N.L. The flame is on a 106-day cross-country relay that will end in Vancouver to mark the start of the 2010 Games.

Quebec alone in gun registry support: Poll

FIREARMS Quebecers are alone in wanting to save the long-gun registry, a new poll suggests.

Outside the province, most Canadians aren't convinced the registry has done much to reduce gun crime and appear content to abolish it.

The survey by The Canadian Press Harris-Decima was conducted Nov. 5-8, just after the House of Commons gave approval in principle to a private member's bill aimed at killing the controversial registry.

The bill, sponsored by a Conservative MP with the wholehearted endorsement of the Harper minority government, passed its first hurdle with help from 12 New Democrats, eight Liberals and one Independent.

In Quebec, a majority of respondents — 56 per cent — said they're opposed to abolishing the registry. And 50 per cent said they believed the registry has helped reduce gun crime.

Outside Quebec, it was a different story.

Majorities in Atlantic Canada (50 per cent), British Columbia (51 per cent), Alberta (64 per cent) and Manitoba and Saskatchewan (61 per cent) said it's a good idea to get rid of the registry.

Ontarians were split on the issue, with 42 per cent favouring abolition and 40 per cent opposed.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

56% A majority of poll respondents in Quebec — 56 per cent — say they do not want to abolish Canada's gun registry.

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New species of dinosaur discovered

A newly discovered dinosaur species that roamed the Earth 200 million years ago may help explain how the creatures evolved into the largest animals on land, scientists in South Africa said yesterday. The Aardonyx celestae was a seven metre-long herbivore. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World



Anniversary of Arafat's death observed

Tens of thousands crowded around the grave of the late Yasser Arafat yesterday to mark the fifth anniversary of the iconic Palestinian leader's death. Arafat's successor, President Mahmoud Abbas, used the occasion to repeat his refusal to return to talks with Israel until it stops building West Bank settlements. The crowd cheered as the embattled Abbas spoke. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Weather caused Brazil blackout?

ENERGY Brazil's energy minister says a blackout that left 60 million people in the dark was caused by bad weather. Edison Lobao says heavy rains and strong winds caused three transformers on a key high-voltage transmission line to short circuit, cutting the line. That eventually caused the massive Itaipu dam to shut down as well.

The blackout that began late Tuesday has prompted questions about Brazil's energy grid, just weeks after the nation won the right to host the 2016 Olympics. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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South Korea warns North

Reportedly deploys backup to disputed sea border where shots were fired Tuesday

South Korea warned it was ready to deter any retaliation by North Korea following the two countries' first naval clash in seven years, reportedly deploying two warships to the disputed sea border yesterday.

The skirmish will not deter Washington from sending an envoy to North Korea, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said, vowing to continue efforts to resolve long-standing disputes over Pyongyang's nuclear weapons program.

Tuesday's exchange of fire occurred hours before U.S. officials said President Barack Obama had decided to accept a North Korean invitation to send the envoy to Pyongyang for the first direct talks during his administration. The incident sparked speculation that the North was trying to foment tensions to gain a negotiating advantage.

Both sides blamed the other for the two-minute clash in a crab-fishing area off the countries' west coast, where both sides regularly accuse the other of violating the disputed border. North Korea's military demanded that the South apologize. The South deployed two more navy ships to deal with possible North Korean moves along the disputed western sea border, South Korea's Yonhap news agency reported yesterday.

South Korea's National Intelligence Service said the incident could not have been an accidental intrusion. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Business as usual

- The naval clash "does not in any way affect our decision" to send nuclear envoy Stephen Bosworth to Pyongyang, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said yesterday. "We think it is an important step that stands on its own."



LEE JIN-MAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

South Korean conservative activists shout slogans during a rally denouncing North Korea in Seoul yesterday.

News in brief

OPRAH A policewoman hailed as a hero in the Fort Hood massacre says the scene was "confusing and chaotic" but that she remembers getting shot. Sgt. Kimberly Munley was one of two civilian police officers who shot at Maj. Nidal Malik Hasan, the U.S. Army psychiatrist accused of killing 13 people and wounding 29 at the Texas military base last week. She and Sgt. Mark Todd appeared on yesterday's episode of The Oprah Winfrey Show.

DNA Britain said yesterday it plans to keep DNA profiles of innocent people on file for at least six years instead of indefinitely, despite a European Court ruling branding the retention as a violation of human rights. Britain has one of the largest DNA databases — many of which are unindicted terrorism suspects — in the world, with more than 4.5 million profiles on file, larger than that of the United States. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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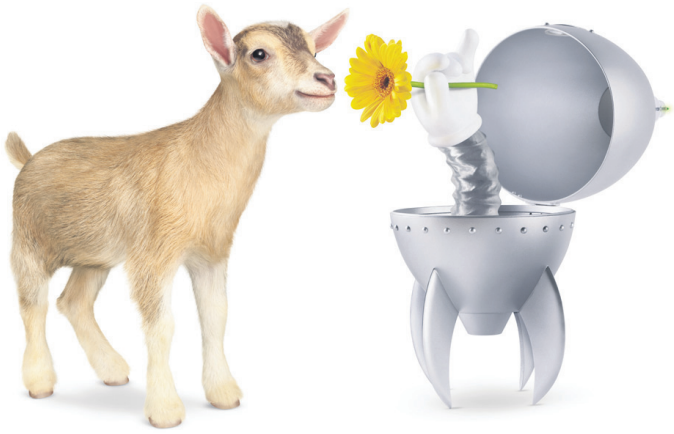
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Fossilized dinosaur sold

An auctioneer says a fossilized Tyrannosaurus rex that failed to sell at auction in Las Vegas last month has been bought by a private buyer who intends to have it displayed in a museum. The fossilized bones are of a 12-metre-long dinosaur that lived 65 million years ago. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

UN official calls for fast

Nearly 200 million children in poor countries have stunted growth because they don't get enough to eat, according to a new report published by UNICEF yesterday before a three-day international summit on the problem of world hunger.

The head of the United Nations food agency, meanwhile, called on the world to join him in a day of fasting ahead of the summit to highlight the plight of one billion hungry people.

Jacques Diouf, director general of the Food and Agriculture Organization, said he hoped the fast would encourage action by world leaders who will take part in the meeting at his agency's headquarters starting Monday.

More than 90 per cent of those children live in Africa and Asia, and more than a third of all deaths in that age group are linked to undernutrition, according to UNICEF.

South Asia is a particular hotspot for the problem, with just Afghanistan, Nepal, India, Bangladesh and Pakistan accounting for 83 million hungry children under five. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Every six seconds

• Frequency in which a child dies from hunger somewhere in the world, according to a video produced by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization.

Grisly search continues

MISSOURI Authorities yesterday were searching a rural property for bodies and buried glass jars containing notes written more than 15 years ago by children who may have documented sexual abuse by five members of their own family.

Five men were arrested Tuesday and are charged with several felonies, including forcible sodomy, rape with a child younger than 12 and use of a child in a sexual performance.

The allegations, which include bestiality and forcing an 11-year-old to have an abortion, date from 1988 to 1995.

Three of the five men are lay ministers in the Community of Christ church.

Investigators were told that alleged victims buried glass jars around the property, filled with messages "about what was happening to them" when they were younger. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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NOVA SCOTIA

Musicians fight coal removal from mountains
A group of music figures has begun a campaign, Music Saves Mountains, against mountaintop coal removal. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Star U.S. dog trainer missing, feared dead

Body not found, ex-wife's boyfriend charged

Mark Stover was a dog-trainer-to-the-stars in the Seattle area. He taught obedience to the pets of Pearl Jam and Nirvana and Starbucks chairman Howard Schultz. He also trained his own dog, Dingo — for protection.

But when Stover's killer came last month, there was nothing Dingo could do.

She was shot in the face, but survived. When deputies arrived, the only signs of her master were smears of blood in a downstairs bedroom and hallway.

Investigators have yet to find Stover's body, but prosecutors have charged his ex-wife's boyfriend with murder in a case that may have stemmed from their divorce two years ago.

Stover's friends said they knew little about the breakup but believed he had moved on and was engaged to another woman when he disappeared.

"We never talked about that — just about the dogs," said Anacortes police animal control officer Marie Padovan. "Dogs that were uncontrollable would go to Mark and they could be controlled. It's a big loss for all of us dog people."

Stover, 57, and ex-wife Linda Opdycke, 45, opened Island Dog Adventures in the early 1990s on an island her wealthy family owned 90 kilometres north of Seattle.

The kennel offered massages, pedicures, a raw-meat diet and weight-loss programs. The dogs roamed the island freely. Clients included Pearl Jam's Eddie Vedder; former Nirvana bassist Krist Novoselic; Soundgarden's Chris Cornell; moviemaker Cameron Crowe and his wife, singer Nancy Wilson of the '70s pop group Heart; and Costco Corp. CEO Jim Sinegal. Japanese-born baseball player Ichiro Suzuki, an outfielder for the Seattle Mariners, brought his Shiba Inu there. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Germany **Protecting against swine flu**



HERMANN J. KNIPPERTZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Carnival goers kiss, as they celebrate the start of the carnival season in Cologne, Germany, yesterday, where many of those celebrating wore masks to protect themselves against influenza A (H1N1). The motto of the season in Cologne is: "Kissed in Cologne".

News in brief

PELICANS Much like its death-defying dives for fish, the brown pelican has resurfaced after plummeting to the brink of extinction. U.S. officials announced yesterday that they were taking the bird off the U.S. government's endangered species list after a struggle of almost four decades to keep the brown pelican population afloat.

GOLD The price of gold is soaring, hitting a record US$1,119 an ounce yesterday — confounding market analysts who thought there was no way gold would remain so expensive when it first cracked the unheard-of $1,000 mark last year. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

German man found guilty of stabbing pregnant woman

TRIAL A 28-year-old German man was found guilty yesterday of murder and sentenced to life in prison for fatally stabbing a pregnant Egyptian in a Dresden courtroom, an attack that triggered outrage in the Muslim world.

The court said in its ruling that because of the particularly brutal nature of the crime, defendant Alexander Wiens would not be eligible for early release.

During the trial, Wiens admitted to stabbing Marwa al-Sherbini to death at a July 1 court hearing. Wiens had argued, however, that his actions were not premeditated and that he had no xenophobic motivation.

Al-Sherbini, a 31-year-old pharmacist, was stabbed at least 16 times by Wiens in the Dresden courtroom where she was to testify against him. She had filed a complaint against him in 2008, accusing him of insulting her with racial slurs, calling her a "terrorist" and an "Islamist" during an altercation. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Comment

Getting serious about skivvies

Relating



The bottomless mysteries of our relationships — and corporate desire to offer a product as the key to those mysteries — results in a lot of dubious data for your delectation.

British papers this week, for example, seriously depleted their supply of punning "pants" headlines and David Beckham underwear shots to report on a study of men's gitch-buying habits and what they tell us about modern couples.

"Study" is a grand word for what was really a customer survey British retailer Debenhams released to the media in hopes of a little publicity and a few sales of underwear.

Among the shocking findings: For most of their lives, guys let women buy their skivvies. The job falls first to their moms, and then girlfriends and wives.

There are, of course, exceptions, and here is where the alleged insight into relationships comes in. Men, according to the crack scientific team at Debenhams, will shell out for new underwear when single, desperately trying to head off a breakup, or looking for a new relationship.

The message from Debenhams might be parsed as thus: Girls, better come in and stock up to ensure your man isn't getting any ideas. If he's purchased some of our quality men's undergarments, thereby making himself irresistible to the ladies, he may be up to something.

There's also a less-than-subtle hint to the single man that perhaps what you need in order to correct that condition is a requisition of underwear, and Debenhams disinterestedly puts the recommended dosage of this cure at somewhere more than 31 pairs per annum.

I'm not sure I follow the logic of this dating strategy. It seems to me that if a potential mate is seeing you in your underwear, things are already going quite well. Certainly, if one is expecting company, a pair without holes is ideal, but beyond that, are brand and vintage really likely to make much difference?

Single women, Debenhams doesn't explicitly say, but would probably agree, might take to patrolling the underwear racks to spot the eligible, though this seems a little sad.

In all, Debenhams' survey tells us little about our relationships apart from the fact that they sell underwear and very much would like to sell more.

Steve Collins offers his best guesses on relationships for Metro every two weeks.

Views

Boring investments can be beautiful

InBusiness



Perhaps it's a sure sign of broad economic recovery, or maybe it's that longer term thinking is, if only momentarily, trumping the short-term perspective that usually dominates investing.

Whatever the reason, boring bricks-and-mortar type investments have become alluring. Earlier this month, Warren Buffett of Berkshire Hathaway made his "all-in wager on the economic future of the United States" by spending $44 billion US to buy the 77 per cent of Burlington Northern Santa Fe that he didn't already own. The railroad buy is the largest single acquisition in Berkshire Hathaway's history.

Major Canadian investors are also making big bets in primary industries and infrastructure.

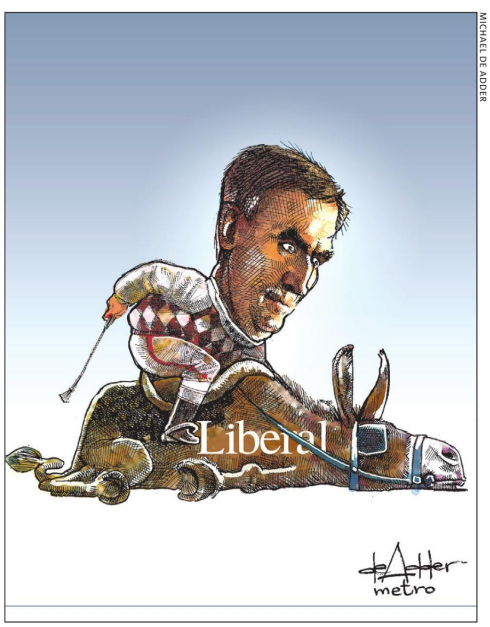
There are several reasons why such straightforward investments are desirable, starting with the fact they're readily understandable and have track records, unlike many technology plays. Fundamental businesses like railroads and health care reflect long-term economic trends — the cost-efficient, even "green," movement of goods in a growing economy in the case of railroads, and the provision of services to a growing older population in the instance of health care.

Infrastructure also has charms. Toll roads, airports, power generation and transmission and ports typically operate in stable regulatory environments and tend to provide steady, inflation-adjusted returns over long periods.

Pension investors like the CPP Investment Board have long had a soft spot for infrastructure investments. By necessity, pension funds have an eye to what their liabilities are going to look like a couple of decades from now, so buying and holding reliable cash generators like airports and roads is helpful.

But even investors with shorter time horizons can benefit from a mix of basic businesses and infrastructure that ensure participation in economic upturns while helping to moderate downturns. Water and sewage companies or roads and tunnels may not be glamorous, but unlike tech darlings or trendy retailers, they'll deliver investment returns year after year.

Charles Davies is a veteran business writer who has worked for Canadian and international news organizations.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

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OPEC revises 2010 crude demand
The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries revised its 2010 global crude demand up to 85.07 million barrels per day yesterday — 75,000 barrels per day higher than its assessment last month. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Poor market boosts digital media

Whether it's "Sit or Squat," a mobile guide to public washrooms sponsored by the makers of Charmin' bathroom tissue, or Apple Students, a Facebook site sponsored by the computer maker with 1.4 million followers, new forms of digital marketing and advertising are gaining ground.

The recession has accelerated the trend as consumer packaged goods firms and retailers look for more cost-effective ways to get their message across, joining technology firms who were earlier adopters of new media, according to a new survey by Ipsos Reid.

However, Canadian companies remain challenged by their lack of knowledge about these new forms of advertising, Ipsos-Reid president Steve Levy said yesterday. And mobile applications are hampered by Canada's costly and uncompetitive mobile communications infrastructure, he added.

"Digital media is gaining momentum," Levy told a digital marketing conference in Toronto. "The recession is absolutely playing a part, fuelling the move to online marketing."

When advertisers and their agencies were asked about their spending intentions for next year, 80 per cent said they planned to spend more on online media, 57 per cent mentioned email and 46 per cent were looking at more mobile applications.

Digital media remains a relatively small segment of advertisers' total budgets, the conference heard. Newspapers remain the single largest advertising medium in Canada, accounting for a quarter of all advertising dollars spent, according to the Canadian Newspaper Association.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

China **Economic powerhouse recovering**



ANDY WONG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A man takes a breather as he loads stock into a truck outside the textile wholesale market in Beijing, China yesterday. The slump in China's exports eased last month as industrial output and retail sales rose sharply, the government said yesterday, showing that recovery in the world's third-largest economy was firmly on track.

Business in brief

BUYOUT Alimentation Couche-Tard announced plans yesterday to partner with Shell Oil to operate 100 convenience stores in Chicago. The deal, which is expected to close by the end of 2009, is subject to final approvals by both companies and regulatory approval. Financial details of the agreement were not disclosed. Of the 100 stores, 89 are operated by third parties under agreement with Shell, including 32 under Couche-Tard's Circle K banner. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Will you buy music you can't put on your iPod?

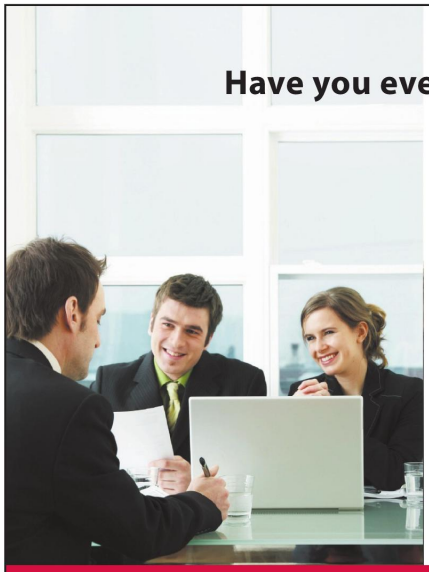
Are you willing to buy a movie or a song that you can never keep in your home or even on your computer hard drive?

More and more companies are offering to sell you songs and movies that they store on their servers. They'll allow you to access your music and films via different devices as long as you're OK with the idea of never being able to gain physical control of what you've purchased.

This system, another variation on the concept of "cloud computing," where hardware or software isn't owned, but accessed on an as-needed basis through the Internet, is a dramatic shift in the concept of buying.

Consumers won't be purchasing a physical product or even bits of data to download. Instead, they'll buy the right to view a movie or listen to a song an unlimited number of times on a smartphone, computer or any other device connected to the Internet. THE CANADIAN PRESS





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Shoppers' profits

Shoppers Drug Mart Corp. says its profits moved higher in the third quarter. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Expect slow recovery, report says

Canada's real-estate market hampered by 'limp demand'

The real estate market didn't fall as hard or as fast in Canada as it did in the U.S., but some spots did suffer steep losses and a recovery will be slow as investors worry about another potential economic dip, a new report suggests.

Total losses in value across Canada will average between 10 to 20 per cent compared to the highs of two years ago, according to the study by PricewaterhouseCoopers and the Urban Land Institute.

But some areas saw a much deeper drop. The report released yesterday predicts a slow recovery to begin by the end of next year.

"For 2010, we are rating only fair investment outlooks for most property types and predict generally weak conditions for development," said Chris Potter of PricewaterhouseCoopers.

"Limp demand threatens to soften property cash flows across all sectors and most markets."

The annual Emerging Trends in Real Estate 2009 report is based on surveys of more than 900 real estate investors developers, lenders, brokers and consultants in both Canada and the U.S.

It shows Canadian real estate investors are still worried about more potential economic shocks, particularly from the U.S. financial system.

That is despite conservative banking practices in Canada and stricter regulation that saved many Canadian investors from overleveraging during the recent housing recession.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Condos OK

- The report forecasts a relatively stable market for developments such as condos, hotels and other developments, which will favour buyers over sellers.

World Bank president says U.S. recovery threatened

ECONOMY Stubbornly high joblessness threatens to trigger loan defaults and drag on consumption next year, hobbling a U.S. economy struggling to rebound from recession, World Bank president Robert Zoellick said yesterday.

Zoellick warned that the U.S. unemployment rate, which jumped to a 26-year high of 10.2 per cent in October, will likely remain elevated in 2010.

"You're going to have problems with delinquencies of credit card loans, consumer loans, people won't be able to pay their mortgages," Zoellick told reporters in Singapore.

"Some banks are going to continue to be troubled by bad loans."

Government stimulus spending will likely fuel economic growth through the middle of next year, Zoellick said. After that, consumer spending and business investment must take the baton to boost expansion, he said.

"If you've got large scale unemployment, if you've got consumers rebuilding savings and deleveraging, I don't think the consumer is going to play that role," he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Debt poses risk to eurozone economy: EU

RISK The EU warned yesterday that eurozone governments who make no effort to curb debt and deficit to agreed limits are posing a risk to the wider 16-nation currency area.

EU Economy Commissioner Joaquin Almunia singled out Greece's "serious problems" with its rapidly worsening economy and public finances, saying they were "also a question of common concern for the whole euro area."

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Macy's loss shrinks
Macy's Inc. reported its third-quarter loss shrunk to $35 million. METRO NEWS SERVICES

AIG's Taiwan employees protest sale

Want pension funds back

More than 1,000 employees of an AIG-affiliated Taiwanese life insurance company protested yesterday the sale of the unit, demanding the return of pension funds they fear could be lost in the deal.

The protest highlighted the difficulties AIG has encountered in completing the transaction, which is awaiting the approval of the Taiwan government.

AIG announced the sale of the Taipei-based Nan Shan Life Insurance Co. on Oct. 12 to an investor group led by Hong Kong's Primus Financial for about $2.15 billion.

The Taiwan government is examining the deal closely and has said it will reject it if it determines Chinese funds are involved.

Primus has denied having a Chinese sponsor.

In yesterday's demonstration, Nan Shan employees voiced their objection to the transaction over fears they could lose their pensions. They say AIG is treating an internal pension fund of NT$14 billion ($433 million) as a Nan Shan asset to be sold off together with the unit, and demanded the money be returned.

The protesters surrounded the Nan Shan headquarters in downtown Taipei to press their case, waving signs with slogans like, "AIG cannot be allowed to go before disputes with employees are resolved."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sensitive issue

- Taiwan law does not allow Chinese investment in the financial sector, including insurance companies.
- Taiwan and China split amid civil war in 1949, and the self-governing island is sensitive about losing control of its economy to Beijing.

Adobe Systems plans to cut 680 full-time jobs

BUDGET Adobe Systems said it is cutting 680 full-time jobs, or about nine per cent of its workforce, to align costs with its fiscal 2010 budget.

The maker of Photoshop, Flash and Acrobat software products said it will record pre-tax charges of $65 million US to $71 million US as a result of the cuts.

The job cuts relate only to Adobe employees before the company, based in San Jose, Calif., bought Omniture Inc. in October.

Adobe also cut nine per cent of Omniture's work force when that deal closed. That amounted to about 108 jobs.

Adobe's job cuts come the day after Sprint Nextel Corp. announced it is slashing 2,000 to 2,500 jobs and video game company Electronic Arts Inc. said it is cutting 1,500.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

$36.60 Adobe's shares closed up 15 cents at $36.60 Tuesday.

Oil services company blames recession for third quarter loss

DRILLING Lower drilling activity among its clients on weak oil prices caused Wenzel Downhole Tools Ltd. to report a net loss in its third quarter.

The oil services company reported a net loss of $843,000 or three cents per share. That was down from year-ago net profit of $3.8 million. Quarterly revenues totalled $9 million, down from $17.2 million last year.

Wenzel attributed the drop in revenue to the worldwide recession and the related and consequential drop in oil and natural gas prices. It said this had led to significant reductions in drilling activity, which gave way to intense pricing pressures.

In Canada, third-quarter revenues were down 52 per cent from last year, reflecting the drop in drilling activity compared to 2008.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Dry awarded Canadian senior baseball championships

Dartmouth Moosehead Dry has been awarded the right to host the Canadian senior baseball championships next August. It will mark the second straight year the reigning Nova Scotia Senior Baseball League champions have hosted the tournament. METRO HALIFAX

Sports



Hagen given CIS honour

Midfielder Ross Hagen, left, of the Dalhousie Tigers men's soccer team was named a Canadian Interuniversity Sport first-team all-Canadian yesterday. Guiseppe Schichilone of the Saint Mary's Huskies won the student-athlete community service award. METRO HALIFAX

EDITOR: CHRIS.CLEMENTS@METRONEWS.CA

Opportunities abound in Series

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

Stefan Della Rovere knows first-hand what an appearance in the Subway Super Series can do for you.

The 19-year-old forward from Barrie, Ont., used a last-minute invite to the Canadian Hockey League showcase last November to propel himself into a job as a key role player for Team Canada at the IIHF world junior championship.

He ultimately helped Canada capture a fifth straight gold medal.

"I just tried to prove myself there and that got me invited to camp and I made the most of it," said Della Rovere. "It was a stepping stone for my career and a dream come true."

Dozens of Canadian hockey hopefuls will look to follow in Della Rovere's footsteps starting Monday, when the annual six-part Super Series opens with the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League hosting Russia in Drummondville, Que.

"Anybody in this game has an opportunity to showcase themselves for our program. They can move themselves up our charts."
Al Murray, Hockey Canada's head scout

This is the seventh year the CHL has held the Super Series, formerly known as the ADT Canada-Russia Challenge.

More than 80 hopefuls will get a look, a much larger group than the one that reported to August's evaluation camp.

"Anybody in this game has an opportunity to showcase themselves for our program," said Hockey Canada's head scout, Al Murray.

"They can move themselves up our charts."

Canada has won 30 of 36 contests with Russia, while the Ontario Hockey League remains a perfect 12-0.

Della Rovere, a Washington Capitals draft choice, will participate in the Super Series again this year, although he won't be flying under the radar this time around.

Along with the likes of Jordan Eberle and Ryan Ellis, he will be among a handful of returnees who will lead the charge for a six-peat.

But there are more than a dozen jobs up for grabs. Taylor Hall, a Windsor Spitfires forward who could go No. 1 in the 2010 NHL draft, is among the new faces to watch.

"It's a great opportunity to look at the top 80 or 90 players that are eligible for our team against a real quality opponent," Murray said.

"It's a very effective evaluation tool."



RICHARD WOLOWICZ/GETTY IMAGES

Stefan Della Rovere, centre, of Team Canada congratulates Dustin Tokarski after defeating Team Sweden in the gold medal game at the IIHF world junior championships at Scotiabank Place earlier this year. Della Rovere earned a spot on Team Canada with a strong showing at last year's Super Series.

Schedule

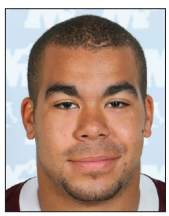
Dates and locations for the Subway Super Series

- Monday, Nov. 16 at Drummondville, Que.
- Wednesday, Nov. 18 at Shawinigan, Que.
- Thursday, Nov. 19 at Barrie, Ont.
- Monday, Nov. 23 at Windsor, Ont.
- Wednesday, Nov. 25 at Victoria, B.C.
- Thursday, Nov. 26 at Kelowna, B.C.

Jones gets all-star nod and reduced suspension

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

FOOTBALL The Saint Mary's Huskies' appeal of a suspension to running back Devon Jones was successful, but he still won't be on the field for Saturday's Loney Bowl at Huskies Stadium.



Devon Jones

Jones, who initially received a three-game ban from Atlantic University Sport for a "deliberate attempt to injure" a player with the St. Francis Xavier X-Men on Oct. 23, had his suspension reduced to two games Tuesday.

Since the conference's leading rusher already served one game of the ban Oct. 30 against Acadia, he will be eligible to return after the Loney Bowl, if the Huskies advance.

The Huskies host the X-Men at 1 p.m.

Jones, who rushed for 490 yards and six touchdowns, got another piece of good news yesterday as he was named to the AUS all-star team along with backfield partner Craig Leger.

Offensive lineman Derek Weber and Adam Baboulas also cracked the team, as did defensive back Mark Holden, cornerback Quinton Meaders, linebacker Ryan King, defensive tackle Devon Hicks and punter/place kicker Justin Palardy.

m.metronews.ca

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Learn how to scan the barcode with the instructions at the top of pg 3

Herd defenceman off to Germany

HOCKEY The Halifax Mooseheads learned yesterday that rookie defenceman Konrad Abeltshauser will be leaving the team for more than three weeks next month to represent Germany at the second-level IIHF world junior championship in France.

The 17-year-old has two goals and eight assists in 16 games and has been one of Halifax's top defencemen.

Abeltshauser also had a playing cast removed from his wrist this week. He's been wearing it for the past four games since returning from a broken wrist Oct. 29.

The Mooseheads (3-18-1) will look to extend a modest two-game winning streak when they host the Moncton Wildcats Friday and the Baie-Comeau Drakkar Saturday. METRO HALIFAX

Rainmen schedule released

BASKETBALL The Halifax Rainmen will open the Premier Basketball League season on the road against the expansion Lawton-Fort Sill Cavalry in Oklahoma Jan. 3.

The Rainmen, whose full 20-game schedule was officially unveiled yesterday, make their home debut at the Metro Centre against the Kebs Jan. 10. METRO HALIFAX

Sports in brief

H1N1 The Quebec Major Junior Hockey League has postponed three games after some players on the Shawinigan Cataractes and P.E.I. Rocket contracted the H1N1 virus. Shawinigan's games against Acadie-Bathurst Friday and the Rocket Saturday were postponed, along with P.E.I.'s game against Baie-Comeau Friday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Zambrano's mother rescued

The mother of former major league pitcher Victor Zambrano has been rescued after a three-day kidnapping ordeal, Venezuelan authorities said yesterday. Elizabeth Mendez Zambrano, 56, was rescued late Tuesday during a "commando-style operation" in the central state of Aragua, police said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Suicide stuns Germany

Top goalkeeper battled depression for years: Wife

The suicide death of Robert Enke left Germany stunned yesterday, sending the soccer-obsessed country into mourning and leaving the national team without its top goalkeeper for next year's World Cup.

Enke's widow appeared at a news conference, broadcast live throughout the country, saying her husband battled depression for years before he stepped onto the tracks and got hit by an express train Tuesday evening not far from his home.

"I tried to be there for him," Teresa Enke said, choking back tears.

"We thought we'd manage everything. We thought with love, we could do it. But you can't."



Robert Enke

Hundreds of people filed into Markkirche, a Lutheran church, yesterday evening to attend a religious service and then march silently to Hannover's soccer stadium to honour Enke, who was the local club's captain.

The German soccer federation cancelled an exhibition against Chile slated for Saturday. Hannover cancelled all practices until Monday.

Enke had a good chance of being Germany's starting goalkeeper at next year's World Cup in South Africa.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Argos fan wants compensation for 'pain and suffering'

CFL The Toronto Argonauts' dismal season may be over, but the problems continue — one of their season-ticket holders is threatening to sue them for breach of contract.

Not only does photographer Craig Roberts of Guelph want his money back, he is also demanding to be reimbursed for parking, the price of "18 hotdogs, 12 bags of peanuts and assorted other refreshments."

He also wants "an undisclosed amount for unnecessary pain and suffering."

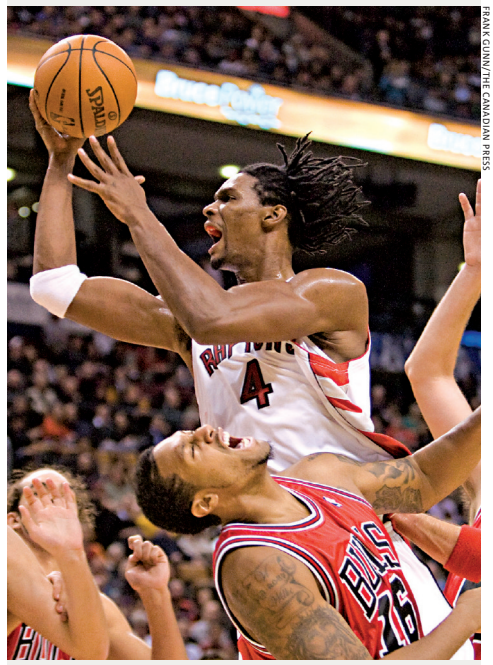
While Roberts admits his cause is "a bit tongue in cheek," he has approached several lawyers. So far, none has chosen to take the case.

Though Roberts is entering the final year of a three-season package — which has seen the team win seven of 36 games — he says he probably won't renew for 2010.

"After that, I'll probably go to the Bills games," he said, apparently unaware of that team's record.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

NBA Raptors gore Bulls



FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Raptors forward Chris Bosh drives through Chicago forward James Johnson on his way to the hoop last night in Toronto. The Raptors went on to beat the Bulls 99-89.

Sports in brief

SWIMMING Michael Phelps finished second in the 200-metre medley final at the short-course World Cup yesterday, struggling in the old-style swimsuit that will become standard next year. Phelps, who won a record eight gold medals at the 2008 Beijing Olympics, clocked a time of one minute 53.93 seconds. He was more than two seconds behind South Africa's Darian Townsend, who won in 1:51.79.

H1N1 The Quebec Major Junior Hockey League has postponed three games after some players on the Shawinigan Cataractes and P.E.I. Rocket contracted the H1N1 virus. Shawinigan's games against Acadie-Bathurst Friday and the Rocket Saturday were postponed, along with P.E.I.'s game against Baie-Comeau Friday.

FOOTBALL Bernd Dittrich, a quarterback with the Simon Fraser Clan, died yesterday. He was 21. The school made the announcement of Dittrich's death. The cause has yet to be determined. Dittrich was taken to hospital Tuesday night after losing consciousness in a swimming pool on campus. He is survived by his family in Austria. THE CANADIAN PRESS

SCOREBOARD

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OL	PT
d-Washington	18	11	3	4	26
d-New Jersey	16	12	4	0	24
d-Buffalo	15	10	4	1	21
Pittsburgh	18	12	6	0	24
N.Y. Rangers	18	10	7	1	21
Philadelphia	14	9	4	1	19
Ottawa	15	8	5	2	18
Boston	17	8	7	2	18
—					
N.Y. Islanders	18	6	6	6	18
Tampa Bay	15	6	4	5	17
Montreal	18	8	10	0	16
Atlanta	14	7	6	1	15
Florida	15	5	9	1	11
Toronto	16	3	8	5	11
Carolina	17	2	12	3	7

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OL	PT
d-San Jose	19	13	4	2	28
d-Colorado	18	12	4	2	26
d-Columbus	17	9	6	2	20
Los Angeles	19	11	6	2	24
Calgary	16	11	4	1	23
Chicago	16	9	5	2	20
Phoenix	17	10	7	0	20
Dallas	17	7	4	6	20
—					
Vancouver	19	10	9	0	20
Detroit	16	8	5	3	19
Edmonton	19	8	9	2	18
St. Louis	16	6	6	4	16
Nashville	16	7	8	1	15
Anaheim	16	6	8	2	14
Minnesota	17	7	10	0	14

YESTERDAY

Buffalo 3 Edmonton 1
New Jersey 3 Anaheim 1
Washington 5 N.Y. Islanders 4 (SO)
Los Angeles 5 Carolina 2
Detroit 9 Columbus 1
Colorado at Chicago

TODAY

Florida at Boston
Atlanta at N.Y. Rangers
Ottawa at Philadelphia
New Jersey at Pittsburgh
Minnesota at Tampa Bay
Vancouver at Detroit
Nashville at St. Louis
Montreal at Phoenix
Dallas at San Jose

d - division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points.

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Boston	8	1	.889	-
Philadelphia	4	4	.500	3½
Toronto	4	4	.500	3½
New York	1	8	.111	7
New Jersey	0	8	.000	7½

SOUTHEAST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Miami	6	1	.857	-
Atlanta	6	2	.750	½
Orlando	6	2	.750	½
Charlotte	3	4	.429	3
Washington	2	6	.250	4½

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Milwaukee	3	2	.600	-
Cleveland	4	3	.571	-
Chicago	4	4	.500	½
Indiana	3	3	.500	½
Detroit	3	4	.429	1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

SOUTHWEST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Dallas	5	2	.714	-
Houston	4	3	.571	1
San Antonio	3	3	.500	1½
New Orleans	3	5	.375	2½
Memphis	1	7	.125	4½

NORTHWEST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Denver	6	2	.750	-
Portland	5	3	.625	1
Oklahoma City	3	4	.429	2½
Utah	3	5	.375	3
Minnesota	1	7	.125	5

PACIFIC DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Phoenix	7	1	.875	-
L.A. Lakers	6	1	.857	½
Sacramento	4	4	.500	3
L.A. Clippers	3	5	.375	4
Golden State	2	5	.286	4½

YESTERDAY

Toronto 99 Chicago 89
Atlanta 114 New York 101
Boston 105 Utah 86
Indiana 108 Golden State 94
Philadelphia 82 New Jersey 79
Charlotte at Detroit
Denver at Milwaukee
Cleveland at Orlando
Portland at Minnesota
Memphis at Houston
Dallas at San Antonio
New Orleans at Phoenix
Oklahoma City at L.A. Clippers

TODAY

Cleveland at Miami
Phoenix at L.A. Lakers

NFL

AFC

EAST

	W	L	T	PCT
New England	6	2	0	.750
N.Y. Jets	4	4	0	.500
Miami	3	5	0	.375
Buffalo	3	5	0	.375

SOUTH

	W	L	T	PCT
Indianapolis	8	0	0	1.000
Houston	5	4	0	.556
Jacksonville	4	4	0	.500
Tennessee	2	6	0	.250

NORTH

	W	L	T	PCT
Cincinnati	6	2	0	.750
Pittsburgh	6	2	0	.750
Baltimore	4	4	0	.500
Cleveland	1	7	0	.125

WEST

	W	L	T	PCT
Denver	6	2	0	.750
San Diego	5	3	0	.625
Oakland	2	6	0	.250
Kansas City	1	7	0	.125

NFC

EAST

	W	L	T	PCT
Dallas	6	2	0	.750
Philadelphia	5	3	0	.625
N.Y. Giants	5	4	0	.556
Washington	2	6	0	.250

SOUTH

	W	L	T	PCT
New Orleans	8	0	0	1.000
Atlanta	5	3	0	.625
Carolina	3	5	0	.375
Tampa Bay	1	7	0	.125

NORTH

	W	L	T	PCT
Minnesota	7	1	0	.875
Green Bay	4	4	0	.500
Chicago	4	4	0	.500
Detroit	1	7	0	.125

WEST

	W	L	T	PCT
Arizona	5	3	0	.625
San Francisco	3	5	0	.375
Seattle	3	5	0	.375
St. Louis	1	7	0	.125

TODAY

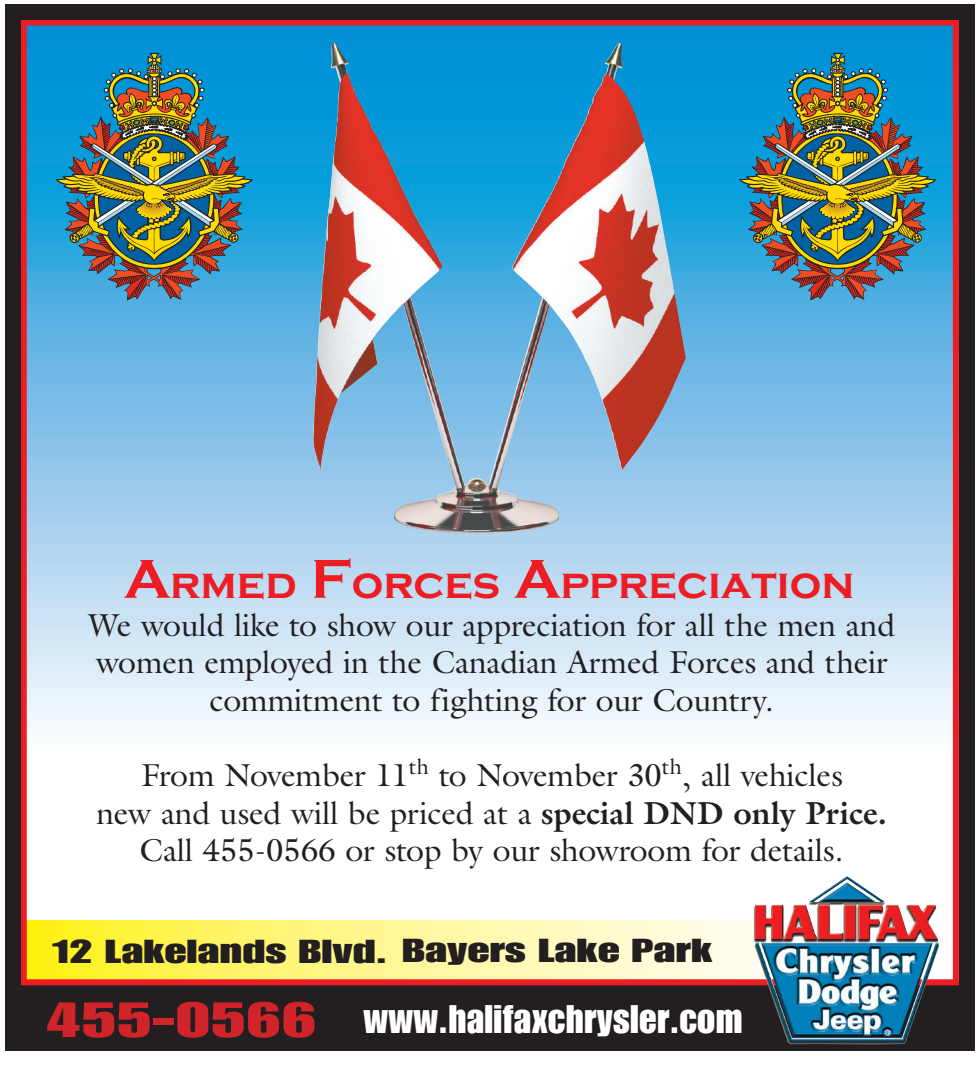
Chicago at San Francisco

SUNDAY

Buffalo at Tennessee
Denver at Washington
Tampa Bay at Miami
Jacksonville at N.Y. Jets
Cincinnati at Pittsburgh
New Orleans at St. Louis
Atlanta at Carolina
Detroit at Minnesota
Kansas City at Oakland
Dallas at Green Bay
Philadelphia at San Diego
Seattle at Arizona
New England at Indianapolis

MONDAY

Baltimore at Cleveland



5-year fixed mortgage rates
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BMO	CIBC	HSBC	ICICI	ING	RBC	Scotia	TD	Broker
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RateSupermarket.ca
Canada's rate comparison website

Metro Homes



Recycled home

Mark and Sally Bailey illustrate the potential of reused objects in their book Recycled Home. Indigo, $33.95, chapters.indigo.ca.
EMMA YARDLEY/FOR METRO CANADA

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

5-year variable mortgage rates
PROVIDED BY RATESUPERMARKET.CA

BMO	CIBC	HSBC	ICICI	ING	RBC	Scotia	TD	Broker
2.25%	2.25%	2.25%	3.50%	2.25%	2.25%	2.25%	2.25%	2.00%

Recycle, reuse, **refresh**

Homes in **Style**

EMMA YARDLEY
for Metro Canada

Any kid who went to elementary school in Canada from the 1980s onward knows the three R's: Reduce, reuse and recycle. Now that many of those same kids are homeowners, they're looking for ways to incorporate those childhood lessons into their living spaces.

"Everybody is more aware of the topic — manufacturers and consumers — so many companies have environmentally friendly lines," says Cameron MacNeil, design editor at Canadian House & Home magazine and a freelance designer for the past ten years.

"You can look at so many environmentally friendly products today and not know they are environmentally friendly … it's not a big trend anymore when it's becoming the norm, which is good."

Now more than ever, there are home decorating options that won't deplete the earth's limited resources.

For one of his projects MacNeil installed recycled glass countertops, while for another he picked up a dinning tabletop made from 100-per-cent post-consumer cardboard.

"Even today a client thought she needed a new sofa but I showed her that all it needed was a slipcover on the old one."



This Pulp bulletin board is constructed from stacks and stacks of repossessed paper and recycled cardboard. Umbra, $26.50, umbra.com.



A good read. Flawed and overstocked magazine pages are cut and pressed together to make this round magazine tray. Urban Barn, $40, urbanbarn.com.



When a tree falls in the forest, does it make a sound? Well, Urban Tree Salvage hears it, finds it and then takes it back to their workshop to craft it into a variety of one-of-a-kind pieces. Maple platter, $70, urbantreesalvage.com.



Each one of these silk rugs is handcrafted in India from the scraps left over from sewing saris. Small, $29.99; large, $39.99; set of two, $54.99. Museums of Canada, museumsofcanada.ca.



Transforming beer bottles into beautiful candleholders is an inspired idea. Recycled glass tea light holders, $12 each, Pistachio.



Sylvia's Basement tip
Use a de-humidifier to keep the basement as dry as possible. SYLVIA PUTZ/FOR METRO CANADA

Got cold feet on basement flooring?

HomeScape



Sylvia Putz
metronews.ca/homescape



Take a moment to think about moisture before you install basement flooring.

The vision of hardwood flooring in the basement may tantalize, but here's one time when sitting on the fence to mull over the nature of basements isn't a bad thing.

For example, think back to that basement flood when the sump pump failed. Reflect upon the wetness that occasionally seeps in through your basement walls and floor when it rains a lot. What if the sewage backed up?

Luckily, for your average concrete basement floor, the biggest problem is plain old moisture. And I don't necessarily mean streams of it — just steady drips, dampness and excess humidity.

Consider the fact that basements are built directly upon or next to soil, which is cold and damp, and also makes the concrete walls and floors cold. When warm interior air hits the cold surface of basement walls and floors, it condenses, producing wetness in your basement.

To make matters worse, concrete floors are porous, and hydrostatic pressure can cause water to come through the concrete slab and onto the basement floor at times of heavy rain, especially if you've got cracks.

The bottom line in a basement is don't go with flooring that will be ruined by wetness because it is almost always present at one time or another.

If you're considering how to finish the floor in your basement, here are some sage words of advice.

- If you've got leak in the basement, fix it before you put down any flooring.
- Porcelain or ceramic tile, applied directly to a clean, flat and dry concrete surface, works well in a basement. It can be cleaned easily too.
- A garage-floor-type epoxy paint works well too, and sponging or other painting effects can create the look of stone. Cleanable.
- Be cautious about laying carpet directly on the concrete floor because it will readily grow mould between the naturally damp basement floor and the carpet, and this can result in that typical mouldy basement smell. Be sure to use appropriate underlay materials, and even with that in place, be prepared to replace carpeting every once in a while, especially after any episodes of excessive moisture in the basement. Rubber-backed carpet tiles may be helpful because they can be selectively removed and replaced.

Sylvia Putz is a journalist with an interest in decor and design. She's written for the TV show Arresting Design; sputz@arrestingdesign.com.

Subfloors needed in some cases

- Other finishes should be used with a subfloor (a floor that is slightly raised above the concrete to allow drainage to a floor drain or natural evaporation underneath) to maximize the length of life of the flooring. In this category, consider sealed cork for a basement that does not get heavy use. Carpeting can also benefit enormously from being used on top of a subfloor. Linoleum or vinyl also works on a subfloor. (Gluing directly onto a concrete floor can cause the tile to contort when the temperature differential is large between the cold floor and the warmer tiles.)
- If you want a wood floor, opt for engineered wood (wood layers pressed together with a resin or glue) applied on a subfloor. Avoid solid wood flooring because it can buckle or warp with moisture. A floating laminate floor may work since it is not attached to the floor, but excess moisture can easily degrade the laminate, especially if it is of poor quality.

When sales are all about business

LegalMatters



Elias Metlej
metronews.ca/legalmatters

I regularly get calls from people asking how long they have to live in a house before they can sell it without paying taxes. Many people believe that the answer lies solely in the timing of the transaction, that taxes can be avoided if they live in the house for at least one year. However, the Income Tax Act makes no reference to a specific time period. Rather, the determining factor is whether the profit qualifies as business income. If the profit is business income, it is taxable.

Based on the broad definition of business, any single property sale could be considered a business transaction. The resulting profit would be included in computing one's income for the year. However, there is no provision in the Income Tax Act that specifically defines the elements of business income.

When the courts have been asked to make such a determination, they have considered many factors, including the property owner's intentions, the nature of the taxpayer's business or profession, and the terms of the financing used to complete the deal. When considering the length of time that the property was owned, courts will also examine the factors that motivated or triggered the sale and the location of the property.

"The timing of a sale may not be significant if it stems from a couple who has separated. If an owner can no longer afford mortgage payments, a deal would not likely be considered a business transaction."

The timing of a sale may not be significant if it stems from a couple who has separated. If an owner can no longer afford mortgage payments, a deal would not likely be considered a business transaction, irrespective of any profit. However, if a taxpayer regularly deals in real estate, such as a realtor or a home builder, it is more probable that gains stemming from a sale would qualify as business income. None of the factors will be conclusive on their own and the measure of their individual relevance varies from case to case.

Elias Metlej is a real estate lawyer with the Halifax firm Blois Nickerson & Bryson. You can write to Elias at askelias@yahoo.com

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Pakistan fashion week

Last week Pakistan's top designers and models took part in the country's first-ever fashion week. The four-day event, which was postponed twice due to security fears, took place in Karachi, the country's largest and most cosmopolitan city. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Style



Charmed by Barbie

Thomas Sabo has introduced a new collection inspired by the ultimate "Charm Girl" — Barbie. The collection, called Barbie Cult, includes a sparkling variety of sterling silver charms in various forms such as a poodle, nail polish bottle, purse, shoe, lipstick and much more. Each charm is sold separately, ranging in price from $45 to $89. The charms are availale across Canada at European Jewellry stores. You can also visit thomassabo.com for availability by location. METRO NEWS SERVICE

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

No more plain Jane

The Mary Jane upgrades her style and versatility

TREND Traditionally, Mary Jane shoes were worn by young girls for formal wear. But today's wide variety make it clear that this strappy footwear is all grown up and intended for women only.

From sequin and stud-adorned to the modern platform styles in bright hues and patent leather, the Mary Janes of today exhibit a versatility never seen before.

Here's a selection that varies from a typical day at the office (see Le Chateau's ribbon shoe or Feet First's blue suede pair) to a night out on the town (see Town Shoes' flowered stiletto or Aldo's sequin-adorned pumps).

METRO NEWS SERVICE



Studded Mary Jane, Winners ($79.99)



Kelis Dagger Mary Jane with flower embellishment, Town Shoes ($269)



Grey Mary Jane with ribbon, Le Chateau ($59.95).



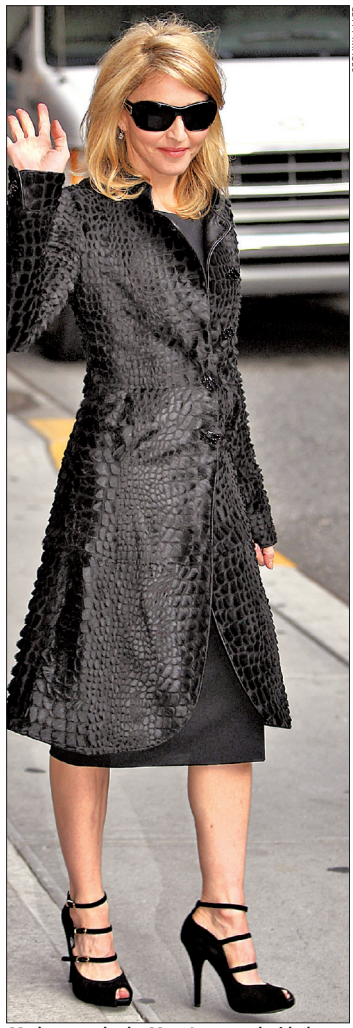
Blue suede Mary Jane, Feet First ($99.99)



Red patent leather Mary Jane, Spring ($44.99). Visit myspringshoes.com.



Silver sparkle Mary Jane, Aldo ($70). Visit aldoshoes.com.



GETTY IMAGES

Madonna rocks the Mary Jane trend with three-strapped black platform pumps



Snakeskin as animal-print option

ALTERNATIVE Skin is in — snakeskin, that is.

Whether it's bags, boots or blouses, the marbled, textured snakeskin look seems to be fashion's new favourite alternative to more traditional animal prints.

It's not that snake — which, except at the very highest price points, is actually embossed leather or fabric in a snakeskin pattern — is new, but it seems fresher than now-ubiquitous leopard and cheetah spots.

Andrea Linett, creative director at Lucky magazine, predicts snake will hold on to that feeling of uniqueness even after being featured on many recent designer runways, including Alexander McQueen, Gucci, Kris Van Assche, Matthew Williamson and Herve Leger. Carolina Herrera's fully beaded rope-weave print shorts for spring had the effect of snakeskin gone glam.

There's a lot to be done with the snakeskin look, Linett says, and it easily navigates back and forth between sexy, edgy and classic.

"A snakeskin boot can be rock 'n' roll if it's in a rock 'n' roll shape, or it's classic if it's in a lady shape," Linett says. Other trends don't always have that privilege, she notes: Metal studs, for example, scream rock 'n' roll or a skirt suit announces a lady.



Snake-print metallic clutch, Smart Set ($28).

Snakeskin is "beautiful, rich and earthy," says Abbe Held, creative director of Kooba, known best as a handbag line. Because the surface is textured, there are highs and lows of colour, which instantly adds interest and dimension.

Held explains that she works with printed lambskin that's been cut by the tanner to create the scales that also help the leather hold up well over time. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

YSL tops Forbes list

Fashion designer Yves Saint Laurent has beaten Michael Jackson and Elvis Presley to the position of top earning dead celebrity, according to Forbes's 2009 rankings. In total, Saint Laurent earned US $350 million. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Skinny fit boots options

New over the knee trend is perfect for slim calves

JANINE FALCON
for Metro Canada

For some women, boot shopping season has them turning to thoughts of calf curls at the gym. Yup, that's right we're talking about you skinny legs!

Ever found the perfect boot with the perfect fit around the foot area, but just too much give in the calves?

Turns out finding boots for slender calves is just as tricky as sourcing generous fits. Stretch boots are an option because they typically have a narrower cut. Town Shoes' Crissi Giamos suggests the season's trendy over-the-knee boot as a solution.

Fans of more classic styles, however, may have to resort to having their boots altered.

Linda Aprile, an administrative assistant at Marsh Canada, an insurance brokerage, had her leather boots taken in at Mr. Presto Shoe Repair in Toronto, Ont.. "The shape didn't change at all; he did a great job," she says.

Owner Jimmy Langton says it's a labour-intensive effort that requires care and precision. "I do them when I'm less busy. They take more time than stretching because they have to be fitted to the customer, and what can and cannot be done has to be explained." He figures he does about 20 or 30 of those per year; the cost starts at about $65.

For a capable shoe craftsperson in your area, check with local shoe stores for a referral.



Great fits for narrow calves: Above: Aldo boot, $260. Below: Barbie overknee boot by Town Shoes, $275.

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Heritage inspired collections



Angela Moore limited edition Canada 2010 bracelet ($69). Available at tabi.ca.

OLYMPICS With the Vancouver Olympics on the horizon, consumer appetite for patriotic apparel will undoubtedly grow as sports lovers and fashion fans seek out duds that boast Canadian colours and symbols to show their national pride.

While the Hudson's Bay Company creates the officially sanctioned clothing line for Canada's athletes at the 2010 Games, unveiled last month, other homegrown retailers are forging their own paths in celebration of Canadiana by releasing heritage-inspired lines.

Lifestyles brand Roots outfitted Canada's Olympians prior to the Bay taking over for the 2006 Winter Games in Turin. Renowned for using homegrown culture, sports and iconic national imagery and symbols as inspiration for its apparel and accessories, Roots continues on a similar trajectory with its latest line.

The Canada Collection by Roots melds influences of Canadian history with the brand's varsity look and athletic heritage. The line includes tuques, scarves, watches, hoodies and hockey jerseys in a vintage-inspired palette of red, white, charcoal and grey mixes, as well as a stable of leather goods emblazoned with the Canadian flag.

Head designer Daniel Allen said inspiration was drawn from Canada's rich history of winter sport, and efforts were made to celebrate and modernize those themes in a contemporary line.

"We were really inspired by the spirit of Canada and all its heritage."
Patti Simigran, Tabi

"You're seeing a real strong graphic inspiration from the 1920s sports teams," he said. "We've got all kinds of progressive modern lines and details."

Tabi is tapping into the winter sports domain with its limited edition collection of apparel and accessories.

The womenswear retailer zeroed in on hockey, curling and skating for their Olympic-inspired sweaters.

Tabi also teamed up with American jewelry designer Angela Moore on a limited edition hand-painted line of earrings, necklaces and bracelets, including pieces which depict winter sports such as skiing and bobsledding along with the Maple Leaf.

"We were really inspired by the spirit of Canada and all its heritage and we wanted to be able to honour the Winter Olympics and somehow participate in it," said Patti Simigran, executive vice-president and chief merchandising officer for Tabi. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Meox mix: Can you spot the feline trend?

It's a trend that seemingly has nine lives.

The spotted patterns of leopards, cheetahs and ocelots are like catnip to designers. Big cat prints return again and again to fashion.

They showed up in the fall collections of Oscar de la Renta on an elegant gown, all over a chic coat at D&G and covering the skin-tight dresses at Blumarine. Accessories also are where the wild things are this season.

Why the soft spot for wild spots?

"We are hunters and gatherers and there is something reassuring about animal prints," says Oriella Stillo, owner of Accessity.

"And perhaps it compensates for our dull colouring compared to the animal world. By putting it on, it brings out that animal magnetism in all of us."

Her Toronto, Ont., boutique has pounced on this trend, with animal-patterned tights, jeans, earrings, scarves and hats.

And they will sell, she says. "It's like black. It doesn't go out of fashion. You never throw any away. There is no limited lifespan to it."

Another part of the appeal is the sense of decadence these patterns invoke – even though they are faux and man-made.

"A shoe or a bag adds a touch of luxury, a feeling of the exotic and wealth attached," notes Sarah Casselman, market editor of Fashion magazine. "It's a status symbol without being a logo or a brand.

"But," she adds, "I always say, when it comes to leopard, less is more."

Therein lies the key to taming this wild trend.

Pile it all on and it looks like a hellish cat fight. Wear just a single piece and it purrs perfection.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Above: Cardigan, Joe Fresh ($24). Below: Dexter pump, Payless Shoes ($39.99)





Hat, Holt Renfrew ($165).

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DISCO DIVA

Metalic hues shine this holiday season!

ADVICE Scene-stealing lamé, sequins and brocade shone on the runways throughout the collections. Head-to-toe or as an accent, this shimmer effect lends a magical mood to dressing up. Offset all this glitter with simply cut styles, and keep the jewellery to a minimum.



Geometric metal, glass and ribbon necklace, Aldo Accessories ($30, aldoshoes.com)



STUDIO ANDRÉ DOYON



Sequined T-shirt, MICHAEL Michael Kors ($165, 1-866-733-5677)



Metallic-leather cut-out booties, Aldo ($110, aldoshoes.com)



Viscose dress with metal appliqués, Vero Moda ($95, 1-866-338-4392); sequined miniskirt, Soaked in Luxury ($99, 1-800-463-8127)



Beaded satin clutch ($110, at Banana Republic)

Editors' Pick

HIGH MAINTENANCE



Kérastase Chrome Thermique Reflection ($40)

If you colour your hair and can't bear the thought of parting with your flat iron, stock up on the latest addition to Kérastase's Thermique line: To counteract the negative effects of heat styling—colour fades faster and hair is stripped of shine—its Chroma Thermique Reflection leave-in treatment uses moisture-rich ceramide to repair damaged strands and a lustre-enhancing lipid to restore natural shine.



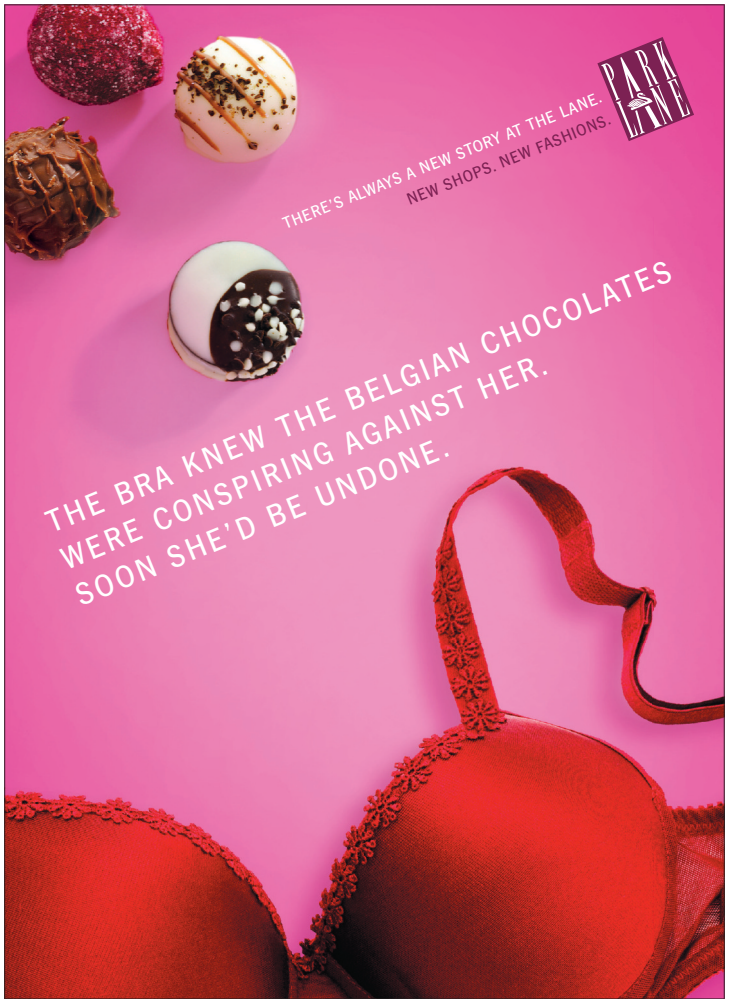
FASHION CONNECTION

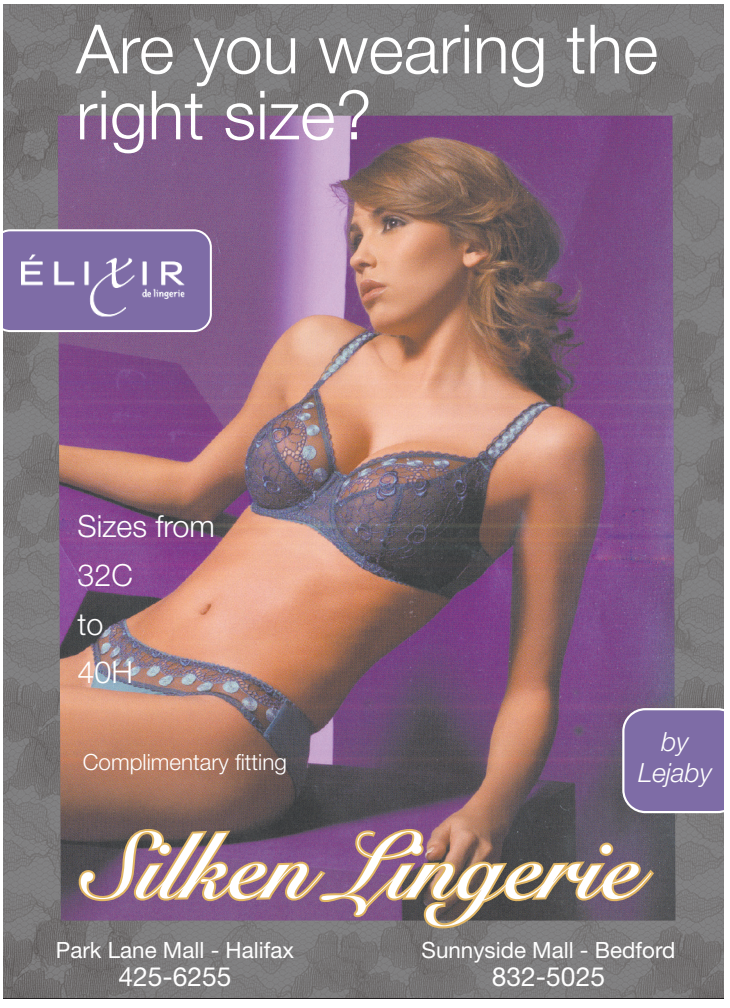


Amanda Brugel (left) and Gail McInnes, founders of The Style Box

Canadian fashion couldn't ask for more committed cheerleaders than Amanda Brugel and Gail McInnes. The glam pair recently opened The Style Box, a showroom featuring 25 Canadian fashion labels — including Coccolily, and Carlie Wong — from which celebs are invited to borrow.

To read these stories and more, visit: **ellecanada.com**





Dave Grohl's blind date
Dave Grohl formed his latest band through a musical "blind date." He asked the members of Them Crooked Vultures — guitarist Josh Homme and bassist John Paul Jones — to meet him at a medieval banquet to see if they could work together. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Entertainment



Sticking around
Aerosmith singer Steven Tyler appeared on stage with the Joe Perry Project at a show in New York Tuesday night and announced to the crowd that he is "not leaving Aerosmith." EW.COM

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Stale anthems suit Bon Jovi

Bon Jovi

Album: The Circle
Label: Universal
Rating: ●●



TRUE COUNTRY FANS can rejoice. Jon Bon Jovi has turned his back on them after reaping platinum profits from Lost Highway, his 2007 over-the-top foray into Nashville. Unfortunately, their loss is anthem rock's gain as Jon Bon Jovi returns to his witless style of stadium rock that gave bandanas and mullets a bad name. He reaffirms his unchallenged ability to make even the freshest cliché sound stale. Who but Bon Jovi could sing a power anthem as profoundly titled as Live Before You Die? And no one but Bon Jovi would even think of building angst and social spirituality into a question like "what is the distance between a bullet and a gun?" Mr. Springsteen, please let your fellow Jersey rocker know that working class doesn't mean brain dead. It's such a waste of a good guitarist. Still, it doesn't matter. The Circle will sell a gazillion and Bon Jovi will be back on TV taking his rightful place as mentor to the American Idols.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

Album Reviews

music@metronews.ca

Blue Rodeo

Album: The Things We Left Behind **Label:** Warner
Rating: ●●●●½



IT'S TOO EASY to take the songwriting of Greg Keelor and Jim Cuddy for granted. Over the past 25 years, they've become like a warm and comfortable shoe to fans of Canadian roots rock. Yet, on this new 16-song, double CD, Keelor and Cuddy prove they remain unequalled at what they do. This is an ambitious album without being over-bearing. Keelor pays homage to his taste for '60s psychedelia on epic production numbers like Million Miles, with its Who-like harmonies, and Venus Rising, the album's extended guitar closer. And there's plenty for fans of Cuddy's gentler balladry on tracks like Arizona Dust. Although Blue Rodeo has lost full-time keyboard player Bob Packwood, The Things We Left Behind does not deteriorate into a jangling guitar album.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada



Bon Jovi returns to anthem rock sound on new album The Circle.

Massari

Album: Forever Massari
Label: Universal
Rating: ●●●



CANADA'S MORE KNOWN for its rock scene, but it's an R&B singer who could be the country's next big export. The Stittsville Ont.-based artist's 2006 debut went gold and his followup Forever Massari, is sure to be an even bigger hit. The record is full of smooth club anthems — it's not butt-shaking bass, but rather, calm, silky odes to the ladies. The melodies are infectious, and lyrics aren't crude.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada



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HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Steve Cochrane, left, Phyllis Ellis, Steve Morana from Three Chords From The Truth on CMT, are pictured in this undated handout photo. Ellis hopes that a Gemini nod could have the power of a resurrection. Her show, Three Chords from the Truth, is one of several heading into Saturday's awards celebrating Canada's best television already cancelled, but she says that critical recognition is still important to her.

Hitting the wrong pitch

Despite being nominated for two Geminis, CMT show still finds itself being cancelled

Phyllis Ellis is hoping a Gemini award could have the power of a resurrection.

Despite being cancelled after only 10 episodes, Ellis's Three Chords From the Truth is up for two awards, including best comedy program, at the ceremony celebrating Canada's homegrown TV talent this weekend.

Ellis says it's fantastic to hear her show's name bandied about again after it was unsuccessful at finding an audience on CMT.

"It's really nice to have a little revival of even the name of the show, people talking about it again, and knowing that our work had value. It's a real honour," she said.

"It would be great if it had an opportunity to be seen. It was aired very late at night and I think most people were asleep," she said with a laugh.

CBC funnyman Ron James will host the awards, which are set to air Saturday on Global and Showcase.

The leading nominee is the CTV cop drama Flashpoint, which is up for a record 19 trophies. The period drama The Tudors has 11 nods and the rookie dramedy Being Erica has snagged nine nominations.

Several other shows vying for Canadian television's top honours have also seen the end of their run. Showcase's Testees, which is also up for best comedy series, was not renewed after a single season.

Ellis said the fact that critically acclaimed shows are being cancelled without finding an audience indicates that quality Canadian television is not being sufficiently appreciated.

"I always say this joke and I mean it with all due respect to everything — only in Canada would a show that nobody saw be nominated, or win an award."

She said she hopes the nod could mean it really isn't the end for her show, for which she was co-writer, co-creator, producer and star.

"I always say this joke and I mean it with all due respect to everything — only in Canada would a show that nobody saw be nominated, or win an award"
Phyllis Ellis, creator of Three Chords From the Truth

Other stars have noted that popularity doesn't necessarily translate into a chance at award-show hardware.

Canada's beloved Corner Gas, widely considered the country's most popular sitcom of all time, was shut out of the nominations this year, something creator and star Brent Butt called "kind of goofy." The series has nabbed five Geminis over its six-season run, including the best comedy titles in 2005, 2006 and 2007.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Griffin guests on Law & Order
Comedian Kathy Griffin will guest star on an episode of Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. The D-List star would be appearing later this season playing a lesbian activist. TVGUIDE.COM



Jackson funeral costs top $1M

Michael Jackson's private family funeral was fit for a king and had a price tag to match — roughly $1 million US, according to court documents.

Although Jackson died in June and had a large public tribute at the Staples Center in Los Angeles in July, the private family funeral held Sept. 3 appeared to have been arranged with urgency.

Legal requests for payments filed with estate administrators by attorneys for Michael Jackson's mother only three days before the scheduled burial noted that if payment was not received by the funeral home and the Glendale Police Department by Sept. 1, "the funeral will not proceed."

The lawyers warned that such a development would cause Katherine Jackson and the family "public embarrassment and added grief, along with the daunting task of having to make new arrangements."


Jackson

There was no indication of resistance by the administrators, who approved payment of all expenses and reimbursement of Michael Jackson's sister Janet for an advance payment to Forest Lawn-Glendale of $49,000.

The final tally of costs included $855,730 to Forest Lawn for cemetery and funeral charges including the purchase of other plots within the same mausoleum that houses Jackson's body.

Also listed were: $35,000 for burial garments; $1,975 for wardrobe for the family; $2,000 for usher costumes; $3,682 for framing of a photograph of Jackson next to the casket; $959 for embroidery; $11,716 for invitations and programs; $16,000 for flowers; $30,000 for cars and security; and $15,000 for a funeral designer. There was also a charge of $21,455 for the "funeral repast" at a restaurant after the ceremony.

During the period that the family waited to bury Jackson, they were charged $5,000 a month for holding the remains in a temporary vault.

The documents showed that his mother, brother Randy and sister Janet were involved in the planning and were mindful that the media would be covering the funeral, although media were not allowed inside the ceremony.

"Mrs. Jackson and her family wish to honour her son by a funeral that seeks to offer solace to his multitude of fans and by which the family also may be comforted," the attorneys said. The costs were substantial but "entirely commensurate with the decedent's worldwide status as an entertainer and the world's grief over his death."

Mrs. Jackson's attorneys were granted the request for $1 million. The administrators noted this was in addition to the costs of the Staples Center tribute, which was approved by the court as part of the agreement with entertainment group AEG.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Warhol sells at auction

• A Thriller-era silk-screened portrait of Michael Jackson created by Andy Warhol has sold for $812,500 US to an anonymous collector. The artwork sold at Christie's in New York City Tuesday. Christie's estimated the portrait would sell for $500,000 to $700,000. The 1984 portrait depicts a smiling Jackson in a jacket with squiggles of red and yellow in his hair.

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E! ENTERTAINMENT



Recording new disc got emotional for Rihanna

Rihanna says recording songs on her new album was such an emotional experience that she sometimes had to leave the studio to prevent herself from breaking down.

"I walked out the studio a few times just trying not to be in tears," she said this week about recording her fourth studio album, Rated R, to be released on Nov. 23.

"It was about me, and so much so that songs got really personal to the point where it took three months for me to start recording it because it was too deep for me to even listen to," she said.

The CD comes nine months after the 21-year-old singing sensation was attacked by ex-boyfriend Chris Brown. Rihanna said recording helped ease the pain — giving her an outlet to express how she truly felt. "I got to vent because I didn't really talk a lot. I didn't talk to a lot of people about anything I was feeling. I just did it on the record," she said.


CARLO ALLEGRI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Singer Rihanna poses in New York City this week.

"I got to vent because I didn't really talk a lot. I didn't talk to a lot of people about anything I was feeling. I just did it on the record."
Rihanna

Brown was arrested Feb. 8. He was accused of beating Rihanna after they attended a pre-Grammy party. Brown later pleaded guilty to felony assault and was sentenced to five years' probation, six months of community labour and a year of domestic violence counselling.

Following the attack, Rihanna said she was sick of sitting at home and decided to head to the studio.

"I was tired of just being in the house and I just felt like I was wasting so much time and just being lackadaisical, so I just wanted to work again and we started recording," she said.

Rihanna, who won a Grammy for the megahit Umbrella, says the new album's sound is "darker" than her previous ones because it reflects her turbulent year. "The recording experience was different because it was from a completely new mind space, from a different perspective. Usually I was thinking of fun stories, things to talk about, different topics that might be cool, but this time is really about my life," she said.

Rihanna also said the album is a reflection of Rihanna the woman — not the image we've come to know. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
11/12/09 primetime	31	31	31 ABC	News Center 5	ABC Wld News	Inside Edition	Chronicle	FlashForward (HDTV) (N)		Grey's Anatomy (N)		Practice
	7	7	7 ASN	The Road to Avonlea		Hollywood	TMZ (N)	FlashForward (HDTV) (N)		Fringe (HDTV) (N)		Practice
	11	11	11 CBC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	After Elizabeth II (N)		The Border (N)		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	2	2	2 CBC-F	Pyramide (SC)	La force	Virginie (SC)	Infoman (SC)	Enquête (HDTV) (SC)		3600 secondes d'extase (SC)		Le Téléjournal
	32	32	32 CBS	WBZ News (N)	Evening News	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Survivor: Samoa (N)		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		The Mentalist
	69	69	69 CFTM	TVA nouvelles	Le Cercle (SC)	La Fièvre de la danse (SC)		Dieu Merci (HDTV) (N) (SC)		Le Gentleman (N) (SC)		TVA nouvelles
	6	6	6 CIHF	Entertainment	ET Canada	90210 (HDTV) (N)		Survivor: Samoa (N)		The Office (N)	The Office	News Final (N)
	9	9	9 CJCH	The Vampire Diaries (N)		The Mentalist (HDTV) (N)		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Grey's Anatomy (N)		CTV News
	10	10	10 ELTV	(6) EastLink Television				Podium TV		Community Matters		
	36	36	36 FOX	Seinfeld	The Simpsons	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Bones (HDTV) (N)		Fringe (HDTV) (N)		Fox First
	12	12	12 NBC	News (N)	NBC News	Hollywood	Extra (N)	Community (N)	Parks-Recreat	The Office (N)	30 Rock	Jay Leno Show
	29	29	29 NW	(6) Power & Politics		Connect Today's biggest stories. (N)				CBC News: The National		Nature-Things
	4	4	4 PBS-B	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer		Greater Boston	Basic Black	Ascent of Money (DVS)		Ascent of Money (DVS)		Art-Century
	35	35	35 PBS-D	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer		Business Rpt.	Worldfocus	This Old Hse.	Hometime	Ask This Old	Michigan	Sherlock H.
	68	68	68 TQS	Guerre clans	Le Mur (SC)	Taxi payant (N)	Rire et délire	Fringe "Passe-Muraille" (SC)		Catherine (SC)	Bob Gratton	Le Mur (SC)
news	23	96	96 BNN	Business News	Headline	Market Call Tonight		GetConnected	Market Call	Squeeze Play		Business News
	18	18	18 CNN	Situation Room-Wolf Blitzer		Lou Dobbs Tonight		Campbell Brown (N)		Larry King Live (N)		Cooper 360
sports	54	54	54 GOLF	LPGA Golf	Golf Central	PGA Tour Golf Children's Miracle Network Classic -- First Round. (HDTV)						Golf
	52	52	52 RSE	Connected W-Prime Time		Over the Bolts	Sportsnet Con.	NFL Football Chicago Bears at San Francisco 49ers. (HDTV) (Live)				
	55	55	55 SCOR	HSR	Covers Experts	Score on NFL	College Football South Florida at Rutgers. (Live)					
	45	45	45 SPD	Unique Whips		Pass Time	NASCAR Hub	Pinks -- All Out (HDTV)		Jacked!	Jacked!	Wrecked
	53	53	53 TSN	Curling	SportsCentre	NHL Hockey Ottawa Senators at Philadelphia Flyers. (HDTV) (Live)					Curling: Road to the Roar	
family	43	43	43 FAM	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Sonny Chance	Zack & Cody	Overruled! (N)	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Latest Buzz	Ned's School
	44	44	44 TOON	Jimmy Two	Johnny Test	Stoked	Total Drama	Majority Rules	6TEEN (N)	Futurama	King of the Hill	*Spaceballs*
	26	26	26 TREE	Wonder Pets	3rd & Bird	Backyardigans	Nght Grdn	Waybuloo	Franklin	Little Bear	Maggie-Beast	Babar
	27	27	27 YTV	iCarly	iCarly	Drake & Josh	To Be Indie	Malcolm-Mid.	Hates Chris	8 Simple Rules	What I Like	Family Biz
cable variety	16	16	16 A&E	The First 48 (HDTV)		Criminal Minds (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48
	70	70	70 APTN	APTN National News (N)		Wapos Bay	By the Rapids	Over the Bolts	Moose TV	*Lara Croft: Tomb Raider* (2001, Adventure)		
	50	50	50 BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live (Live)				Monica: Still	Monica: Still	*Fled* ★★ (1996, Action), Salma Hayek		
	37	37	37 BRVO	Wind at My Back		Storytellers	PhotoXplorers	Bathroom Divas-Opera Star		*The Saddest Music in the World* (DVS)		
	25	25	25 CMT	Wilsons	Wilsons	Funniest Home Videos		Reba	Reba	According-Jim	According-Jim	Home Improve.
	49	49	49 COM	Just for Laughs		Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Hot Box
	153	153	153 COURT	Truth, Duty, Valour		The Investigators		Cops Uncut	Dumb Criminal	Psychic Detect	Haunting Evid.	Investigators
	38	38	38 DISC	How It's Made	How It's Made	Daily Planet (N)		Nostradamus Decoded Famous/infamous prophet.				MythBusters
	34	48	48 HGTV	Extreme Makeover: Home		House Hunters	Property Virgin	Holmes Inspection		Renovation	Disaster DIY	House Hunters
	46	46	46 HIST	Seven Signs of the Apocalypse (N)				The Lost Book of Nostradamus				Nostradamus
	17	17	17 MM	America's Best Dance Crew		One Tree Hill		So You Think You Can Dance Canada				disBand
	19	19	19 MMM	mmtop10.ca		The Daily Fix		Ranked!		Wild 'n Out	Wild 'n Out	Confessions
	201	201	201 M1	*Bee Movie*	(7:45) *The Necessities of Life* (2008, Drama)				Nurse Jackie	*The Deal* (2008, Comedy), LL Cool J		
	48	23	23 OLN	Mantracker		Ghost Hunters		Dog the Bounty Hunter		Survivorman		Ghost Hunters
	51	51	51 PEACH	The Office	Name Is Earl	Family Guy	Family Guy	House-Payne	House-Payne	Law & Order: SVU		*Trapped*
	206	206	206 PIX	(6:45) *The Thirteenth Floor* ★★ (1999)			*Stars in My Crown* ★★★ (1950, Drama)			*To Live and Die in L.A.* ★★ (1985)		
	67	67	67 RDI	RDI monde	RDI économie	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI économie
	39	39	39 SHOW	Trailer Park	Trailer Park	The Outer Limits		Da Vinci's City Hall		The Best Years (DVS)		Saving Grace
	40	40	40 SLICE	Skin Deep	Skin Deep	Rich Bride, Poor Bride		X-Weighted "Anthony"		X-Weighted		X-Weighted
	47	47	47 SPACE	Stargate SG-1 "Spirits"		Stargate Atlantis (DVS)		Star Trek: Voyager		Primeval		Eureka
	14	14	14 SPIKE	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		UFC Unleashed		The Ultimate Fighter (HDTV)		TNA Wrestling (HDTV) (N)		
	57	98	98 STAR	etalk	TMZ (N)	Look-A-Like	TMZ	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		The View (HDTV) (N)		Dr. Oz Show
	21	21	21 TLC	Say Yes-Dress	Say Yes-Dress	Street Customs (HDTV)		American Chopper		American Chopper (N)		Street
	56	34	34 TROP	Bob & Doug	Bob & Doug	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	The Outer Limits		ET Canada	TV Made, Do It	Family Guy
	20	20	20 TV5	Que.-champion	Journal de Fr2	Horizons (SC)		Club social		Envoyé spécial		
	28	28	28 V	Jozi-H "Crush" (DVS)		Murder, She Wrote		On the Buses	'Allo, 'Allo!	*Charlotte Gray* ★★ (2001, Drama)		
	60	97	97 VIVA	Da Vinci's Inquest		Cold Case		Missing A bus disappears.		The Closer		Cold Case
	22	22	22 W	House-Sell	Confidential	Old Christine	Friends	Friends	Grocery Bag	Confidential	Confidential	Divine Design
	251	251	251 WGN	WGN Evening News		Two/Half Men	Family Guy	The Vampire Diaries (N)		Supernatural (HDTV) (N)		WGN News

critics' corner

The Mentalist
Minelli (Gregory Itzin) orders Patrick (Simon Baker) and his team to put aside their differences and work together with Bosco (Terry Kinney) and his team in order to locate a kidnapped woman who is being held for ransom in the new episode "Red Bulls." 8 PM on CJCH



The Border
A timely story given the impending arrival of the Winter Olympics in Vancouver, this new episode finds Zoe (Sarah Gadon) helping a Chinese Olympian who wants to make a run for the border — ours that is — and defect to Canada. 9 PM on CBC

Community
He's a lawyer; he used to argue for a living. So the debate team should be right up Jeff's (Joel McHale) alley, right? That's what he thinks when he agrees to step in as Annie's (Alison Brie) partner before the big debate with City College. An obnoxious opponent quickly takes the wind out of his sails, however. Abed's (Danny Pudi) films seem to be predicting the future, freaking out Shirley (Yvette Nicole Brown). 9 PM on NBC



Anderson demands flattering flassh from photogs
Pamela Anderson has stirred controversy over her famous looks — after ejecting photographers from a Miami event on the weekend because they refused to shoot her with a flattering flash. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Tapping into the love generation

Seymour-Hoffman connects with the passion of his character in Pirate Radio

HEIDI PATALANO
for Metro Canada

It's pretty easy to tell that revered actor Phillip Seymour Hoffman is not so enthusiastic about doing press.

He even starts to get itchy a few minutes into the process, scratching his right shoulder repeatedly while speaking with the slightest bit of impatience in his voice. Still, the sometimes boisterous acting auteur gives an equally lively performance as The Count, in Pirate Radio — opening tomorrow — playing an ex-pat DJ who joins an all-British pirate radio station in the mid-'60s, at a time when the BBC refused to air the country's groundbreaking rock music.

Q One of the most memorable scenes in the film involves a character quickly having to choose one prized album to save while the rest were destroyed. What record would you pick if you were in that situation?

A I wouldn't do it, I've got to be honest with you. I would be thinking of other things. It would be family and stuff.

If I could get out with the family, everything else could burn.

Q What about your favorite music that you discovered on the radio?

A Oh God, I like so many different kinds of music just because all I did as a kid was listen to the radio. I didn't really buy LPs or go to concerts.

I wasn't a connoisseur, really, in that way. I would just sit in the backseat of the car and listen to the radio in the summer time.

Therefore, it's amazing all the different types of music I like because of that.

My dad would listen to jazz at night. I was introduced to all sorts of musicwithout any of it being shoved down my throat. Or being swept up into the whole, you know, I'm going to follow the Grateful Dead or something.

Q Yet, you've played two characters, here and your character in Almost Famous, that have totally embodied the spirit of rock and roll. What did you tap into for those roles?

A It's a passion for something. He's mad about something. It's not that hard to identify with those things. They're very successful characters to play and fun characters to play because what they're doing and what they stand for, there's not a person that doesn't immediately identify with those two qualities. It doesn't have to be about rock and roll.

Q This seems like a much lighter role than those you usually take on. Was it a relief to play in a comedy like this?

A It's a real ensemble piece.

That's part of it, sharing that burden with all, which is what the characters are going through anyway.

They really are sharing a burden of something they feel strongly about.

The movie itself has an energy about it they're looking to have a good time, mostly.

So that could be fun especially with those kinds of actors.

Q What kind of work did you do to get into the role?

A What I normally do whenever I act.

It's really boring. People find it very uninteresting.

It's not like I set up a DJ booth in my apartment or anything.

Q Where does your passion and energy for acting come from?

A When I was about 12 or 13 I was a patron of theater and I loved it, had a huge passion for it. I just did. Why that is, I don't know. That's really what it still is.




Phillip Seymour Hoffman stars in Pirate Radio — opening tomorrow — as The Count, an ex-pat DJ who joins all British radio station in the 1960s.

Q How did you compare acting with someone who is broadcasting on the air?

A They're all in the same family in a way but I would relate being a radio personality more to being a writer than being an actor because the radio personality is trying to find their certain voice.

They start out and they're trying to figure out who they are and how they sound and what they do.

I think writers are like that. Actors aren't like that because they're not trying to do one thing.

They're actually trying to find a way to do that with many different voices.

Giller winner back to work less than a day after win

BOOKS As a working journalist, Linden MacIntyre doesn't have much time to savour his elevation to the ranks of the Canadian literary elite.

The morning after his novel The Bishop's Man won the $50,000 Scotiabank Giller Prize, the veteran broadcaster was sitting in the Toronto offices of his publisher Random House Canada and he was already moving on to the next, looming deadline.

MacIntyre had little choice but to go into his office later in the day to put the finishing touches on a segment about the perils of marijuana trafficking in B.C. that airs Friday on The Fifth Estate.

"I'm going on a shoot for that next week," said MacIntyre, 66. "Life goes on."

No time to savour the win, drink some champagne?

No time to polish his Giller?

"That's what it's all about," MacIntyre said. "It's all about getting an audience for the book and getting people talking and thinking about the book ... and moving on."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Past

- Historically, a Giller winner gets a substantial bump in sales. Joseph Boyden's Through Black Spruce, which claimed the Giller last year, experienced a 300 per cent bump after the win was announced, with sales climbing from 30,000 to 90,000.





Another Beyoncé fan

Leona Lewis, left, has praised Beyoncé Knowles' sense of style. The singer was thrilled to meet Beyoncé at the recent MTV Europe Music Awards, pronouncing the pop superstar "nice" as well as stylish. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Twilight gets a bit creepier

Actor Edi Gathegi reprises his vampire role in a spookier, sexier sequel

CHRIS ALEXANDER
for Metro Canada

In the fascinating world of Twilight, the undead are indeed among us and, like all self-respecting vampires, they're hungry for blood.

But what has given Twilight — both the juggernaut book series by Stephenie Meyer and its filmed equivalent — its devoted following, inspiring legions of swooning admirers, is that its melancholy ghouls are misunderstood. By and large, they're just looking for love.

Unlike the human-friendly Cullen clan, however, some of the monsters in the Twilight world aren't so endearing.

Case in point: the feral, ferocious Laurent, played in both Catherine Hardwicke's original Twilight film and in Chris Weitz's hotly anticipated follow-up, New Moon, by actor Edi Gathegi.

"Playing Laurent has changed my life," says Gathegi of his dreadlocked, deceitful and decidedly lethal blood-drinking heavy.

"I'm not a fan of horror movies but I've always wanted to play a monster. And on top of that, the films have given me the opportunity to see the world and travel and collect a pretty devoted fan base."

Though not an admirer of horror films, Gathegi has



Kristen Stewart and Edi Gathegi star in Twilight sequel New Moon.

Movie **feature**

made his fair share. Besides his turn as Laurent, he also starred in last years 3-D shocker My Bloody Valentine, as well as 2007's ultra-violent exploitation thriller Death Sentence.

"I really don't think of either Twilight or New Moon as purely horror," the actor says.

"They're more romantic and action-oriented, more fantastical and mythical than your typical vampire movie."

Whatever genre you want to pigeonhole the franchise in, there's no arguing that with New Moon, the story takes a far darker narrative turn, expanding its universe and upping the ante in terms of both the romance (lead femme fatale Bella is torn between vampire Edward and werewolf Jacob Black) and the creepy, skin-crawling stuff.

"I just saw the final cut and I think Chris (Weitz) really changed the entire feel of the series." Gathegi says of the sequel.

"There's something about the tone of it, the texture; the dynamics of the images are different. It feels like it's from the same world and yet not, and it's really kind of beautiful."

On the web

- You've met one of the vampires. Now go online to metronews.ca to watch an interview with the actors who portray the werewolves in New Moon (including Taylor Lautner), and director Chris Weitz.



Getting to the roots of a racially charged issue

Good **Hair**
Director: Jeff Stilson
Classification: STC
Rating: ⊕⊕⊕

RICHARD CROUSE
for Metro Canada

REVIEW On the surface, Good Hair sounds like the thinnest idea for a movie since Andy Warhol documented 24 hours in the life of the Empire State Building using only one static shot.

Comedian Chris Rock's look at the African-American hair industry could have been a bit on the gimmicky side, but he and director Jeff Stilson wring every ounce of interest from the subject.

Inspired by his young daughter asking, "Daddy, how come I don't have good hair?" Rock uses gentle humour to examine the relationship black women have with their hair. He interviews everyone from former teen star Raven-Symoné to author Maya Angelou to decipher why and how African-American women go to such lengths to modify their hair.

They discuss weaves — hair extensions described as "the graduation of the wig" — and relaxer, a potion used to straighten hair for a more "European look," which several women refer to as "creamy crack" because of their dependence on the toxic balm.

Good Hair opens at Bayers Lake tomorrow

It's all rather light and breezy, and would be kind of inconsequential if Rock and company hadn't broadened the film to examine how hair care in the African-American community became a billion-dollar industry, and why more of the businesses that feed this industry aren't black-owned.



Comedian Chris Rock teases out serious issues from the topic of African-American coiffure in Good Hair.

"There's something wrong when we can't control something as basic as the hair on our heads," says Al Sharpton (called the "Dalai Lama of Relaxer").

Good Hair works because it cleverly uses a study of African-American hair culture as the gateway to examine larger issues of race without ever sounding preachy or pedantic.

"There's something wrong when we can't control something as basic as the hair on our heads."
Al Sharpton

Is it perfect? No — a hair competition that bookends the film could easily have been shortened or cut altogether — but it's worth the price of admission to watch Rock talk hair, male and female, with the folks at a barbershop, or to hear Ice-T talking about getting a mug shot taken while wearing curlers.

Ultimately, Good Hair's most important message is summed up by Sharpton, when the minister says, "The stuff on top of their heads isn't as important as the stuff inside their heads."

Vampires have a lock on People's Choice Awards

SHORT LIST Nominees for the People's Choice Awards are in, and the people choose vampires.

Twilight and True Blood were among the top nominees named Tuesday. Fans cast more than 18 million votes online to select the slate, and will also choose the winners in 35 categories.

Twilight is up for favourite movie, franchise and on-screen team for its trio of stars: Kristen Stewart, Robert Pattinson and Taylor Lautner. Stewart and Pattinson were also nominated individually for favourite movie actress and actor, and Lautner is up for breakout movie actor.

True Blood was nominated for favourite TV obsession and sci-fi/fantasy TV show. Star Anna Paquin also earned a nod for favourite TV drama actress.



Queen Latifah

Queen Latifah is set to host the People's Choice Awards at the Nokia Theatre. The ceremony will be broadcast live on CBS on Jan. 6, 2010.

Some of the other nominees for the People's Choice Awards:

TV drama: CSI: Crime Scene Investigation, Grey's Anatomy, House, Lost, NCIS

TV comedy: Desperate Housewives, How I Met Your Mother, The Big Bang Theory, The Office, Two and a Half Men

TV drama actor: Hugh Laurie, Kiefer Sutherland, Mark Harmon, Matthew Fox, Patrick Dempsey

TV drama actress: Anna Paquin, Blake Lively, Jennifer Love Hewitt, Katherine Heigl, Mariska Hargitay

TV comedy actor: Alec Baldwin, Charlie Sheen, Jim Parsons, Neil Patrick Harris, Steve Carell

TV comedy actress: Alyson Hannigan, America Ferrera, Amy Poehler, Eva Longoria Parker, Tina Fey

Movie actor: Brad Pitt, Hugh Jackman, Johnny Depp, Robert Pattinson, Ryan Reynolds

Movie actress: Anne Hathaway, Drew Barrymore, Jennifer Aniston, Kristen Stewart, Sandra Bullock

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fans can vote for nominated shows, movies and performers online at peopleschoice.com.

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Glenora Inn and Distillery in Glenville, Cape Breton, won Exporter of the Year. North America's only single-malt whiskey distillery was commended by Taste Nova Scotia for their international sales. Visit glenoradistillery.com/ or call 1-800-839-0491. VALERIE MANSOUR/FOR METRO HALIFAX

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Dinner & drinks for 2: $50


VALERIE MANSOUR/FOR METRO HALIFAX

Bermuda Fishcakes ($8)



Chicken Roti ($12)

Rock Island is a colourful café, a few steps below street level, with bright photos of Bermuda and four large television screens. There is also the fastest moving server I've seen in this town — knowledgeable and personable, he's a gem.

I once enjoyed a tasty chicken soup here. This time my pal and I share Bermuda Fishcakes ($8). This mix of salt cod, potatoes and onion, with an accompanying mayo, proves to be our favourite dish — crisp on the outside, they are scrumptious.

Chicken Roti ($12 with salad) is a large tortilla shell stuffed with plenty of chick peas and potato and not enough chicken. It surprisingly lacks spice.

The evening special is a Shrimp Pasta ($10), fettuccine in a cream sauce with cocktail shrimp and bits of broccoli. It also needs more flavour.

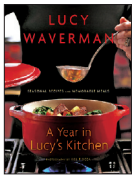
For dessert we share the Bermuda Bomber Dark Chocolate Molten Cake ($5). Buried under a large scoop of vanilla ice cream, the cake is rubbery and not enough bomb with us.

We leave wishing the food were as impressive as our stellar server.

On the web

- Get recipes and more great food content at metronews.ca/recipes

Cooking for every season



BOOK Capturing the trend to eating seasonally and locally, a number of Canadian cookbooks released this fall are featuring recipes to help readers do just that right in their own kitchens.

Veteran food writer Lucy Waverman really delivers style geared to seasonal meals in her new book, A Year In Lucy's Kitchen: Seasonal Recipes and Memorable Meals.

Waverman, the author of eight cookbooks, has a new twist in her latest book. Her husband Bruce MacDougall, an expert in tasting and matching wine and food, has put his talents to pairing her recipes with the appropriate vintages.

Waverman has also included several spiced-up recipes throughout the book. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Dining out

SANDRA GARDNER IS THE BEST
Sandra Gardner from The Five Fishermen restaurant, 1740 Argyle St., was presented with a Taste of Nova Scotia 2009 Prestige Award for Restaurant Server of the Year at a ceremony Nov. 5. Visit fivefishermen.com or call 422-4421.

TOP CUISINE
Chives Canadian Bistro, 1537 Barrington St., won Taste of Nova Scotia's Cuisine of the Year, while Restaurant Le Caveau in Grand Pre won Restaurant of the Year. Visit chives.ca or call 420-9626. Visit grandprewines.ns.ca/

In brief

DRINK Garrison Brewery received the Innovative Product of the Year award from Taste Nova Scotia for its "Baltic Porter" which had already won a Gold Medal at the World Beer Championships in Chicago last January.

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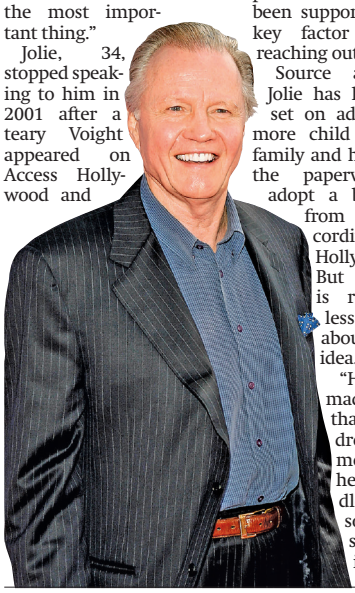
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Splitsville for Julianne
Julianne Hough and Chuck Wicks have decided to call it quits. "This was mutual. They needed some time apart," a source tells People. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Jon and Angelina have reconciled

SAY DAD, HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT BABYSITTING? After a seven-year rift, Jon Voight tells the new issue of Us Weekly that he and Angelina Jolie have reconciled. "We're in touch, but not regularly," Voight, 70, confirms to Us Weekly. "We love each other and that's the most important thing."



Jolie, 34, stopped speaking to him in 2001 after a teary Voight appeared on Access Hollywood and pleaded for her to seek help for her "serious mental problems." But in February, "they met face-to-face" and have been talking ever since, a family friend tells the new Us Weekly.

"Angie made the initial contact," says the pal. "Brad (Pitt has been supportive — a key factor in her reaching out."

Source also say Jolie has her heart set on adding one more child to their family and has begun the paperwork to adopt a baby girl from Syria, according to Hollyscoop.

But Brad Pitt is reportedly less thrilled about the idea.

"He has made it clear that six children are more than he can handle," a source says. "The idea of one more seemed ludicrous, but Angie is determined to complete her rainbow family." An INS spokesman confirmed that "only Angelina's name was on the adoption papers," according to the website. METRO WORLD NEWS

Renée's going to meet the folks

DIDN'T THESE TWO BREAK UP LAST WEEK? Things are reportedly getting very serious between Bradley Cooper and Renée Zellweger. So serious, in fact, that they may soon be planning a wedding. "As soon as his mom gives the sign off, he's going to propose," a source tells Gatecrasher. He's even bringing her home to his parents' home in Philadelphia for Thanksgiving. "Things have been heading in this direction for the two of them for a while," the source says. "But this definitely solidifies how serious they are." METRO WORLD NEWS



Kristen, Fergie are friends

BETCHA WE KNOW WHAT ROB'S THINKING While in Paris to promote New Moon, Kristen Stewart made a new friend: Fergie, who she met at a restaurant after dining with co-stars Rob Pattinson and Taylor Lautner.

"It was totally unplanned," a source tells People magazine. Stewart and Fergie reportedly chatted awhile before leaving together, holding hands as they walked out. "(They) looked like they'd gotten on really well." Fergie, meanwhile, recently told the Advocate that she's curbed her bisexual ways since getting married. "I've had a lot of fun with women, and I'm not ashamed of it," she told the magazine. "But just because I enjoy women doesn't mean I'm allowed to have affairs in my relationship." METRO WORLD NEWS





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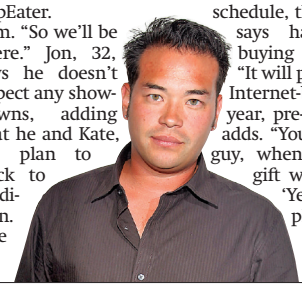
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Christmas will proceed as usual at Gosselin household

SOUNDS SUSPICIOUSLY NORMAL Jon Gosselin says he and estranged wife Kate will spend Christmas together with their eight kids, usmagazine.com reports. "Christmas Eve and Christmas day are joint-shared custody days, which means we're both in the house," he tells AOL's PopEater.com. "So we'll be there." Jon, 32, says he doesn't expect any showdowns, adding that he and Kate, 34, plan to stick to tradition. The kids "do the stockings early Christmas morning," he says. "Kate makes sticky buns. We keep it all the same. Nothing has changed. That way they have the sense of security with everything that's going on."

He adds, "This year, there's a lot of paparazzi, so who knows? Every year it's different." With his hectic schedule, the reality star says hasn't started buying presents yet. "It will probably be all Internet-based this year, pre-wrapped," he adds. "You know, I'm a guy, when there's free gift wrap, I'm like, 'Yeah, yes please.'" METRO NEWS SERVICES



Celine loses her baby: Rep

FERTILITY BATTLE Celine Dion has lost her baby. A spokeswoman for the pop star has confirmed that Dion's pregnancy, which she announced in August, has failed. The couple had its first child with the help of fertility treatments, she became pregnant again with the help of the same technology, and the couple has kept trying despite the latest setback. Dion tried fertility treatment last month, but that didn't work, and she will make another attempt at getting pregnant this weekend in New York. Dion's husband Rene Angelil has told a newspaper that he and Dion are disappointed but determined, and that they take comfort in the fact they already have one child. Dion, 41, and Angelil 67, have an eight-year-old son Rene-Charles. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Travolta plays tennis at night

ENOUGH WITH THE DAMN VAMPIRES ALREADY John Travolta has become a fan of playing tennis, but he indulges in the sport at very strange hours. "I play at midnight. Kind of vampire-style," he told Ellen DeGeneres when stopping by her talk show. METRO WORLD NEWS



Dina trashes ex over phone tapes

THESE FOLKS SURE KNOW HOW TO STAY IN THE NEWS Dina Lohan is speaking out about Michael Lohan and the tapes of phone calls with her and Lindsay he's been releasing. "The tapes were from a long time ago, and for a father to stoop this low is unforgivable." METRO WORLD NEWS



Celebrity tweets

John Mayer has trouble adjusting to time zone changes, Paris Hilton loves indulging her inner child, Elizabeth Taylor is starting the Oscar campaign for "This Is It," and John Cleese finds Twitter's questions a bit invasive.

• @johncmayer
Anybody in the LA area who may have returned from a trip to Australia want to play some racquetball or rent a movie?

• @Paris Hilton
My man bought me a Pink Castle Moonbounce. It's so cute and so much fun!

• @DameElizabeth
I truly believe this film should be nominated in every category conceivable.

• @JohnCleese
All those tweeteries asking me what I'm doing. You'd think they never heard of Google.

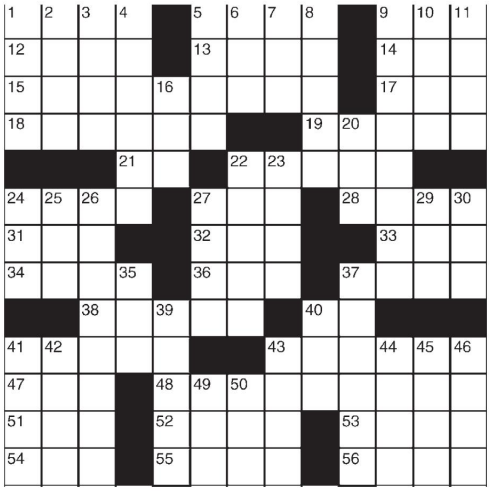
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Friday Sunny 9° / 2°
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Take Five



ACROSS

1 Hardly hirsute
5 Last few notes
9 Hairdo goo
12 Addict
13 Any time now
14 Raw rock
15 Farm animals
17 Playground game
18 River craft
19 Cow catcher?
21 "Heavens!"
22 On the qui vive
24 Wan
27 Fellow
28 Pull strings?
31 Red or Black
32 Commotion
33 Gridlock component
34 Jailer's janglers
36 Card-table cry
37 Terrier type
38 Final approval
40 End of a Descartes quote
41 Expenditure
43 Comments to the audience
47 Monk's address
48 Measuring device
51 Buddy
52 Unpaid
53 Roll call reply
54 Wapiti
55 Solidifies
56 Poker variety

DOWN

1Magnitude
2 Largest of the seven
3 Tax
4 Really handsome
5 Eliot-based musical
6 Yoko of music
7 Elmer, to Bugs
8 Bracelet location
9 Couldn't proceed
10 Historic periods
11 Toy block name
16 Firmament
20 Museum fill
22 Sound portion
23 Holyoke founder Mary
24 Request
25 Witness
26 Needle location?
27 Jokes
29 Aye undoer
30 Prior to
35 Droop
37 Margaret Chase and Anna Deavere
39 Vacillates
40 Donkey
41"... so why not take all —?"
42 Caspian feeder
43 Puts two and two together
44 Regimen
45 Beige
46 Timetable, for short
49 Shock and —
50 On pension (Abbr.)

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	2		3		6		4	
		5				3		
	8		2		1		6	
	1	6				7	3	
9								6
	3	8				9	2	
	7		8		4		1	
		2				6		
	4		5		9		7	

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

S	W	A	B	■	P	E	A	■	S	T	A	B			
A	I	D	A	■	O	A	R	■	T	U	N	E			
P	L	A	T	I	N	U	M	■	A	N	T	E			
S	T	R	I	C	T	■	O	R	I	G	I	N			
■	■	■	K	O	I	■	R	U	N	S	■	■			
A	B	A	■	N	A	B	■	M	E	T	R	O			
F	I	N	N	■	C	O	G	■	D	E	A	R			
T	O	T	E	R	■	A	R	T	■	N	Y	C			
■	■	I	G	O	R	■	A	S	S	■	■	■			
I	N	M	A	T	E	■	N	A	T	U	R	E			
R	I	O	T	■	H	Y	D	R	O	G	E	N			
A	N	N	E	■	A	M	P	■	C	L	A	D			
N	A	Y	S	■	B	A	A	■	K	I	D	S			

2	9	6	8	3	7	5	4	1
4	8	1	6	2	5	3	9	7
7	5	3	9	4	1	2	8	6
9	7	8	2	6	3	4	1	5
6	3	4	1	5	9	8	7	2
5	1	2	4	7	8	6	3	9
8	2	7	5	1	4	9	6	3
1	4	5	3	9	6	7	2	8
3	6	9	7	8	2	1	5	4

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca



Metro Recipe of the Day



Cauliflower & Goat Cheese Soup

Submitted by:
Samantha Denham,
Toronto, On

INGREDIENTS:

1 Head of cauliflower
8 Cup of chicken stock
1 four inch sausage of goat cheese

METHOD:

1. Chop up the cauliflower, removing hard pieces. Put in a pot with chicken stock.
2. Boil until very soft. (add more chicken stock if it is a large cauliflower.) Puree and strain.
3. Put back on the stove and add the goat cheese and mix until smooth. Garnish with spinach or parsley.

SERVES 4
PREP TIME: 10 MINUTES
COOK TIME: 10 MINUTES

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Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
You seem to be under a lot of pressure at the moment, but nothing bad will happen so long as you keep your wits. You're tougher than you look.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Don't plan anything too serious for the next 24 hours because this is a time for fun and games, not work and worry. Do only what makes you smile.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Go out of your way to help other people, because what you do for friends and loved ones now will be done for you at some stage in the future.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
It appears you are being far too critical, both about yourself and about other people. Life is not intended to be a burden; it's meant to be fun.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
Hard work never hurt anyone. True or false? Whatever the answer, the planets urge you to give yourself a break, because you will diminish returns.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Mercury, your ruler, squares up to Neptune, planet of spirituality, so chances are you will be more concerned with your inner life than with the world.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
You may have higher standards than most but you don't have to aim for perfection in everything you do. Even a Libra is allowed to let things slip a bit.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
Keep what you know to yourself today because the fewer people who are in on the secret the more leverage it will give you to influence events.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
You don't need to exaggerate your importance – friends and family and work colleagues are well aware of what you are capable of.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
You will influence important people with ease today, but you must not fall into the trap of promising things you may not be able to deliver on time.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
You've got masses of strength, stamina and self-belief but you need to keep sight of the fact that you've got limits too

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
There is a definite luck factor working in your favor at the moment but don't overestimate your abilities.

This day in history

1927: Leon Trotsky is expelled from the Soviet Communist Party, leaving Joseph Stalin in undisputed control of the USSR
1933: Hugh Gray takes the first known photograph of the Loch Ness Monster
1969: Vietnam War: My Lai Massacre — independent investigative journalist Seymour Hersh breaks the My Lai story.
1980: NASA space probe makes closest approach to Saturn and takes first pictures of its rings.
1998: Al Gore signs the Kyoto Protocol
2003: The first Italian casualties fall in the American led Iraq War.

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